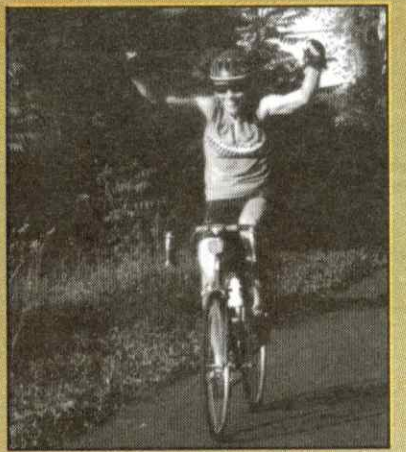


VALLEY Optimist MAGAZINE

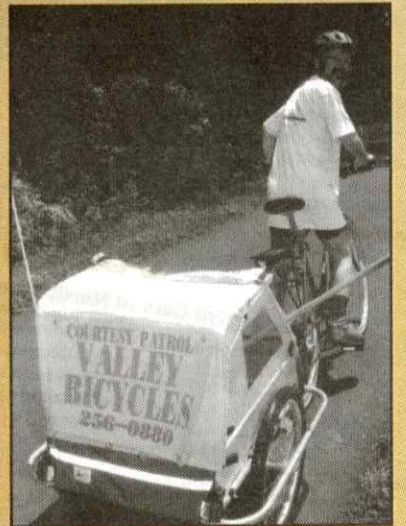
FREE

VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 7
JUNE 15 – JUNE 29, 1994



9 GAY GAMES IV

More than 85 Western Massachusetts athletes, collectively known as Team Northampton, will travel to New York City to participate in the Olympic-sized event.



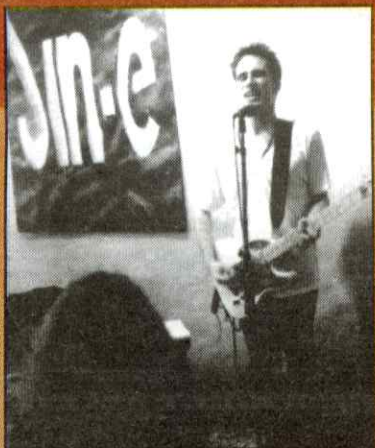
11 COULL AND THE GANG

Local business owner John Coull has started a volunteer group for community-related projects. Find out how to become a member of the Valley Bicycles Chain Gang.



12 THE HUMAN TOUCH

In an age of computers and laser printers, Easthampton entrepreneur Carol J. Blinn designs handmade cards, stationary, and books — one page at a time.



Jeff Buckley, singer-songwriter and captivating live performer, plays the Iron Horse in Northampton with his band on Friday, June 24, at 10 p.m.

CALENDAR PICKS

FRIDAY JUNE 17

Mimi Kates performs her powerful, innovative songs at the Green River Café in Greenfield at 9 p.m.

SUNDAY JUNE 19

Minibus and Borderland, two local favorites, co-headline a rock extravaganza at the Northampton Brewery at 10 p.m.

MONDAY JUNE 20

Lou Donaldson plays alto saxophone with his jazz and bebop band at the Iron Horse in Northampton at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY JUNE 24

Versus, a stellar indie-pop trio from New York, headline a triple bill at the Bay State Cabaret in Northampton with local groups Miles Dethmuffin and Philth Shack at 10 p.m.

SATURDAY JUNE 25

G. Love and Special Sauce perform their critically acclaimed combination of blues and rap at Pearl Street in Northampton at 9 p.m.

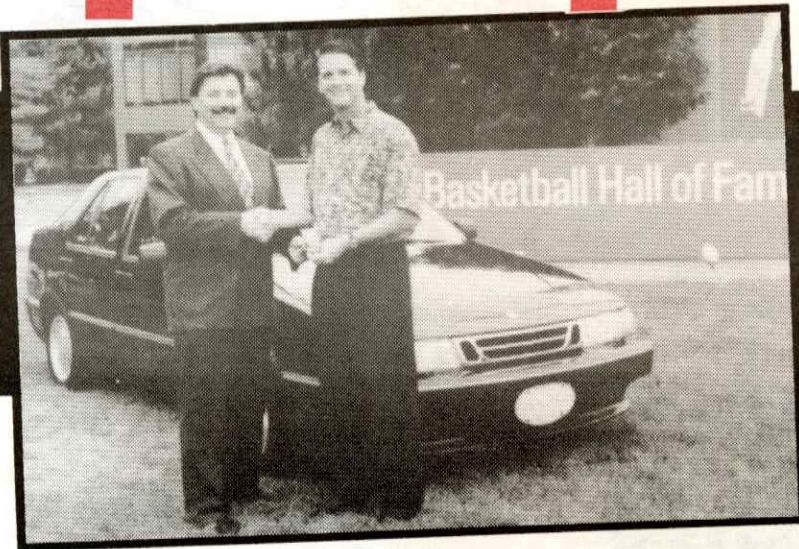
SUNDAY JUNE 26

Song and Story Swap, hosted by the Pioneer Valley Folklore Society, is fun for the whole family at the Montague Bookmill at 4:30 p.m. Free!

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#1 in SAAB SALES SATISFACTION

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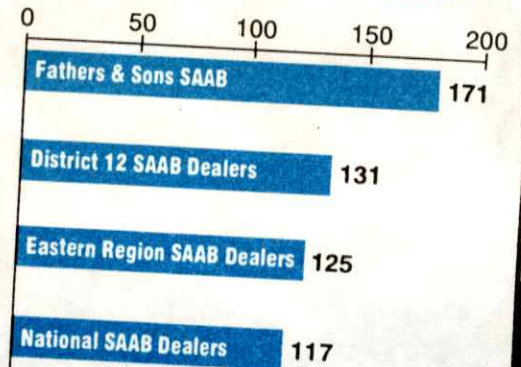


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Overall SAAB Sales Satisfaction Index



Source: 1993 Saab SSI Study, Winter 1993

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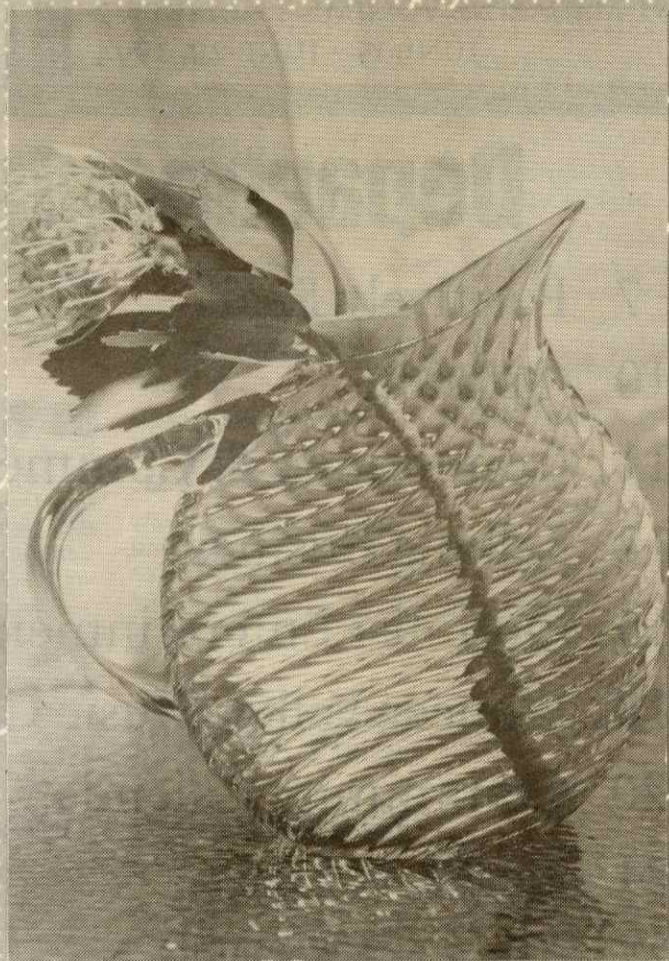
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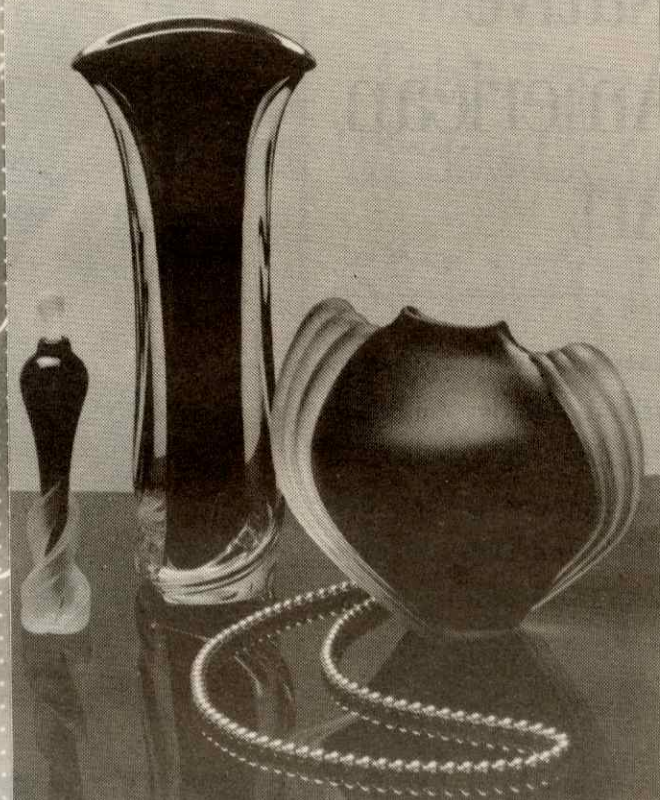
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- 7 **GAY GAMES** *photo by Sandy Sherwin*
11 **COULL AND THE GANG** *photo by Elizabeth Bryant*
12 **THE HUMAN TOUCH** *photo by John Cooper*

Cover Artwork

"FREEFALL"

Pastel (detail) by Linda Post. Other works by Post are currently on exhibit at R. Michelson Gallery in Northampton. Post lives in Northampton. Photo by Stephen Petegorsky

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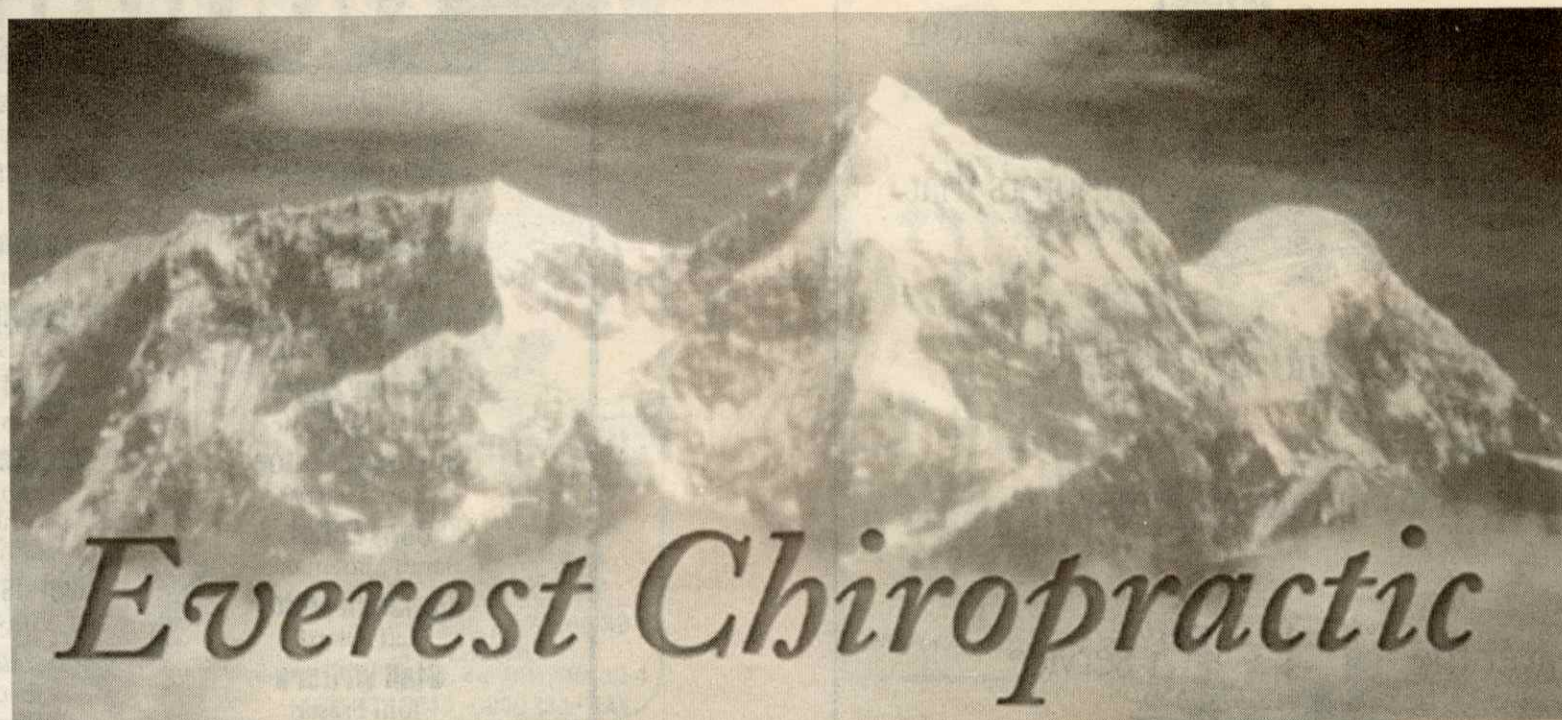
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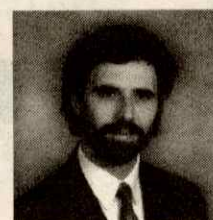
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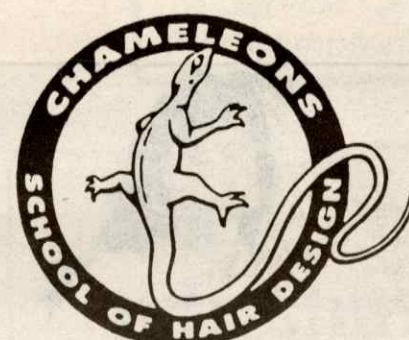
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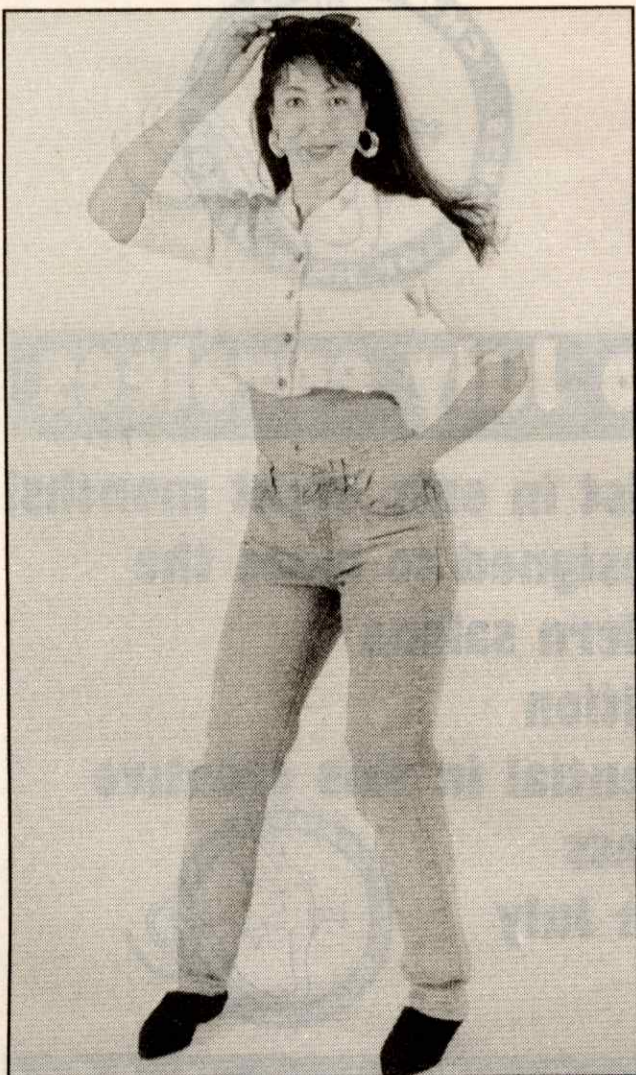
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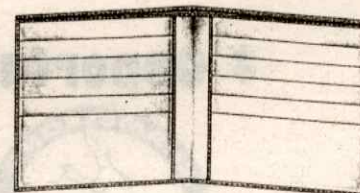
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LET THE GAMES BEGIN

Gay Games IV bring athletic prowess, gay pride, and Western Massachusetts athletes to NYC

by Jill Rubinstein

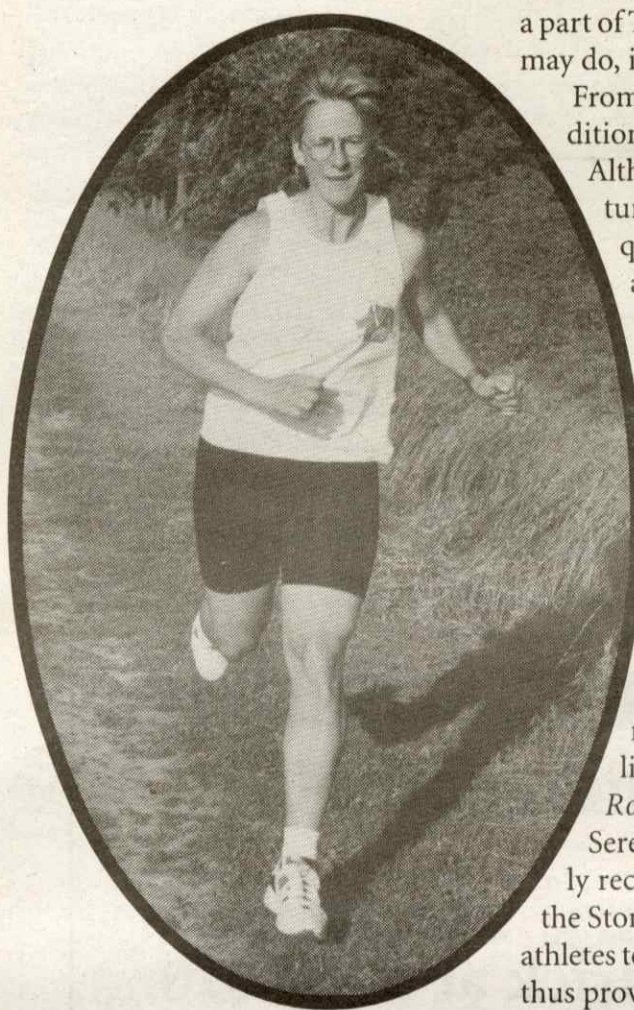
There is a special kind of renown reserved for Olympic athletes. They endure jabs and criticism from the media and public, to be sure, but they also enjoy a kind of "most favored celebrity status." They are on Our Team. They are wholesome and clean and have clearly eaten Wheaties and Wonder Bread and all things American since the day they could sprint/dive/dunk. Even when they come in second or lose or become embroiled in hit-man-hiring antics, they never cease to be a part of The Team. If we get upset about the silly Olympic things they may do, it's only because they belong to us. They matter.

From June 18 through June 26 this summer, another athletic tradition, Olympic in style and size, takes place in New York City.

Although this event has been called "the largest athletic and cultural event in the world," it has, to date, been relegated to a quiet corner of major media coverage far from Lillehammer and Barcelona. That is because these are the Gay Games, and our society has been reluctant to allow gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people equal recognition. In fact, the Gay Games are called the Gay Games because the United States Olympic Committee was willing to fight lengthy and expensive legal battles to prevent the title "The Gay Olympics." Martina Navratilova, the lone "out" lesbian in popular professional sports, has watched millions of dollars in endorsements go to tennis players ranked far below her. She was quoted in *Out* magazine as saying, "maybe they don't like my hair or my nose, but I doubt that's the reason." No, it hasn't been easy, but the potential for improvement is promising. This has been the year of "alternative lifestyles" on such mainstays of American entertainment as *Roseanne*, *Melrose Place*, and *Newsweek* magazine.

Serendipitously, it is also the 25th anniversary of the first widely recognized uprising against gay-bashing and homophobia — the Stonewall Rebellion. The stage is perfectly set for this summer's athletes to capitalize on this increased acceptance in the mainstream, thus proving themselves deserving of attention.

At the end of this month, organizers are expecting a staggering 12,000 athletes in New York — staggering compared to approximately 2,000 athletes in Lillehammer this winter.

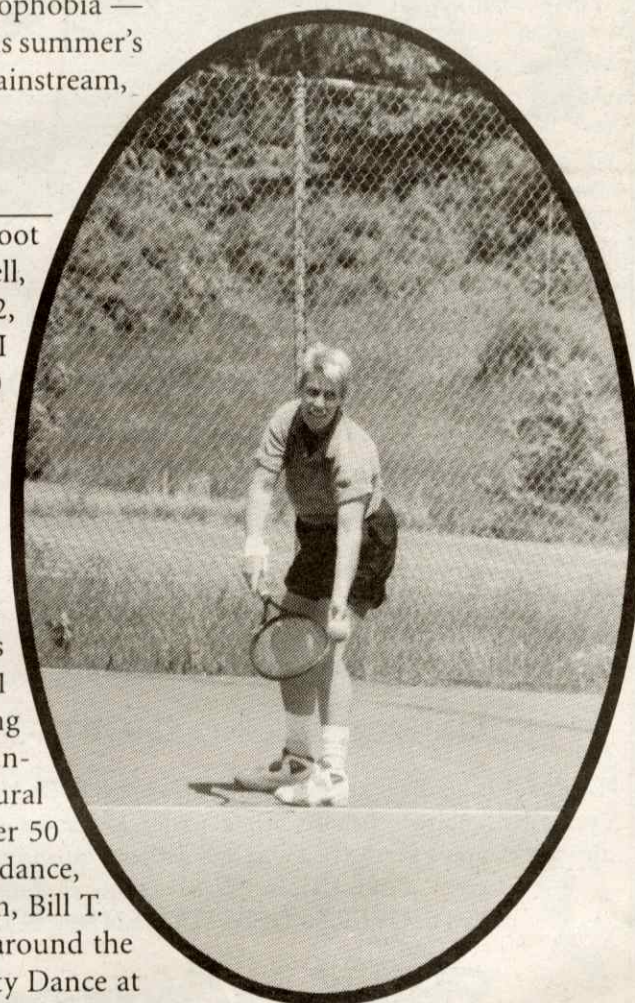


Triathlete Susan Tyler's enthusiasm for the Gay Games can't be extinguished.

photo by Sandy Sherwin

SOMETHING FOR THE MANTLE

This is the summer of Gay Games IV, a thriving offshoot from healthy roots. The vision belonged to Dr. Tom Waddell, physician, paratrooper, and Olympic decathlete. In 1972, he presented the idea to supporters and saw Gay Games I and II occur in San Francisco in 1982 and 1986 with 1,800 and 3,500 participants respectively, before he died of AIDS in 1987. Since then, enthusiasm and participation have multiplied like dandelions in springtime. Vancouver hosted Gay Games III in 1990 and welcomed 7,000 athletes. At the end of this month, organizers are expecting a staggering 12,000 athletes in New York — staggering compared to approximately 2,000 athletes in Lillehammer this winter. Participants and spectators can look forward to 31 sporting events in 30 different athletic venues (including Yankee Stadium for the closing ceremonies), 7,000 volunteers, and that's not including the Lesbian and Gay Cultural Festival being run in conjunction with the Games. Over 50 events scheduled around the city will feature such music, dance, theater, and comic performers as Ian McKellen, Janis Ian, Bill T. Jones, Liza Minnelli, and Kate Clinton. Clubs and bars around the city will host galas like the Homo Hoedown, The Identity Dance at the New Age Cabaret, and The Butch Ball. The mayor's office has estimated that tourist revenues from Gay Games IV will bring \$111 million dollars to New York City.



At 50 years old, Sunny Meidell has a healthy resumé of athletic competition.

photo by Sandy Sherwin

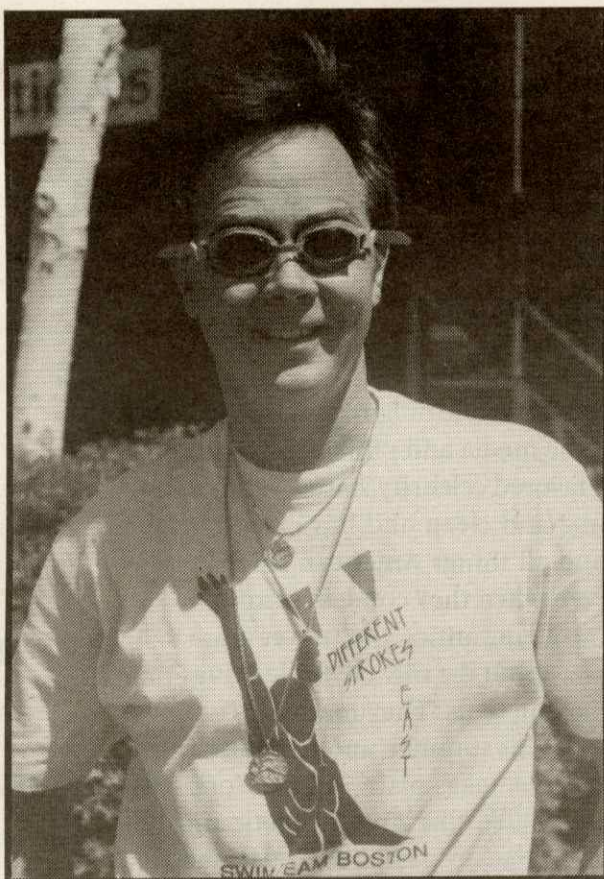
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According to Beverly Boyarsky, a spokeswoman for "New York in '94," the Gay Games organizational committee, the idea behind the Games was to create an opportunity for all athletes to strive towards a peak of personal achievement without feeling compelled to hide their sexual orientation. While homosexuality isn't a prerequisite for participation in the Games, a desire for universal civil rights, regardless of romantic inclinations, is. The stated mission of the Games is to enhance the dignity, pride, and self-respect of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people everywhere. "The games are open to everyone," says Boyarsky. "This is a vehicle for unity." This purpose is undoubtedly lodged in the minds of the 85 (at last count) members of Team Northampton. (Let's hope, however, that they never lose sight of what's *really* important: bringing home some medals.)

TEAM NORTHAMPTON EATS THEIR WHEATIES

Team Northampton (geographically misnamed, considering that participants are from all over Western Massachusetts) is, of course, comprised of talented athletes. Our local representatives are going for the gold in softball, body building, volleyball, cycling, swimming, rock climbing, badminton, basketball, and soccer, just to name a few events. These athletes range from seasoned to as-yet-untested in formal competition, and many are competing in more than one event. In part, this has to do with the single-elimination setup of

some events. Participants in tennis or Tae Kwon Do, for example, who lose their first match will be eliminated from competition without any consolation round. For those who have shelled out money for travel,



John Wurster will display his swimming skills in the company of 1,500 other swimmers at the Gay Games.

photo by Sandy Sherwin

housing, and food in New York City, not to mention the registration fees just to play in the Games, early elimination would mean very little actual playing time for the dol-

lar. By competing in two events, athletes will have a chance to see more action on the field, court, or course.

Registration fees and related costs of participating in the Games have caused conflict for many local athletes. Susan Tyler, who will compete in the triathlon as well as on the volleyball court in NYC, has paid more than \$300 in registration fees. There is a flat participation fee of \$60, add to this \$60 for the triathlon, \$80 for volleyball, a \$25 surcharge for playing two sports, and a \$50 late fee, per sport, for registration after December 31. Tyler, who won a gold medal in Vancouver, recalls, "There was one flat fee of \$45 in Vancouver. [The New York City Games] definitely [aren't] accessible in the same way, the way they should be." According to Boyarsky, the reason for the exorbitant fees lies in the costs of the athletic venues. "We're a non-profit organization," she says. "We have costs. The bodybuilding competition is at the Paramount Theatre, the figure skating competition — the first time same-sex couples have skated together in the history of the sport — will be at Abe Stark Stadium at Coney Island, the Closing Ceremonies are at Yankee Stadium, and it all costs money. We're not making any money from this."

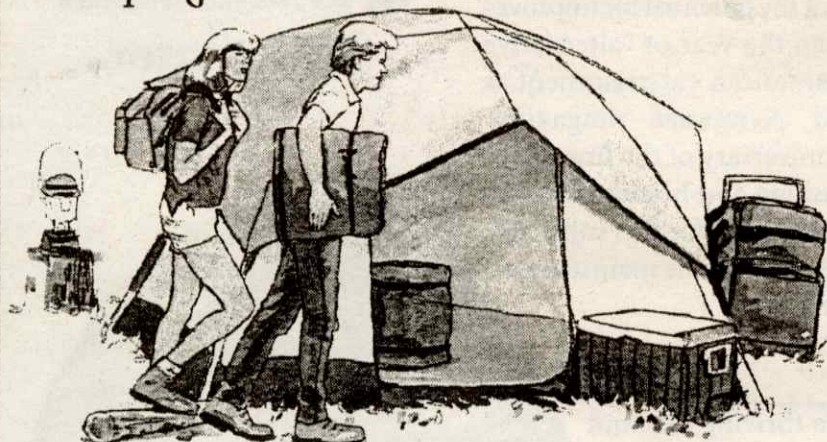
An early May meeting of these Western Massachusetts athletes suggested that our team is as versatile and resilient emotionally as they are athletically. There was obvious frustration with the single-elimination competition, the financial expense, and the confusing registration information from the New York

headquarters. However, the mood remained jovial, and the strains of bureaucracy didn't seem to fully sap the enthusiasm of those present. These people were ready to make fun of the situation sooner than complain — a necessary tactic, one might say, for those who are accustomed to succeeding in the face of frequent setbacks and difficulty. There was even some talk of turning the athletic tables and bringing an incarnation of the Games to Northampton for all those who couldn't afford the New York experience. Well-accomplished athletes have been known to describe the necessity of a positive mental attitude and an ability to envision future success. Team Northampton athletes, no doubt representatives of thousands of Games participants like them, embody that optimism.

MEET THE CONTESTANTS

Although these athletes are serious about their sports, those interviewed seemed more eager to feel the open arms of community than to win their events. At 50 years old, Sunny Meidell has a healthy resumé of athletic competition. She has run half marathons (13 miles), biked century races (100 miles), played in US Tennis Association tournaments, and been competitively bodybuilding for the last six years. She is the program director and a tennis instructor at the Sunderland fitness center, The Club, and, not surprisingly, emphasizes the importance of physical fitness for everyone. However, in talking about the Games, Meidell, who is also a minister at the Hope Church in Amherst, emphasizes community and connections to people first. "[Playing in the games] has given me an opportunity to play with my sisters and brothers in a non-competitive arena — to communicate and meet other people and

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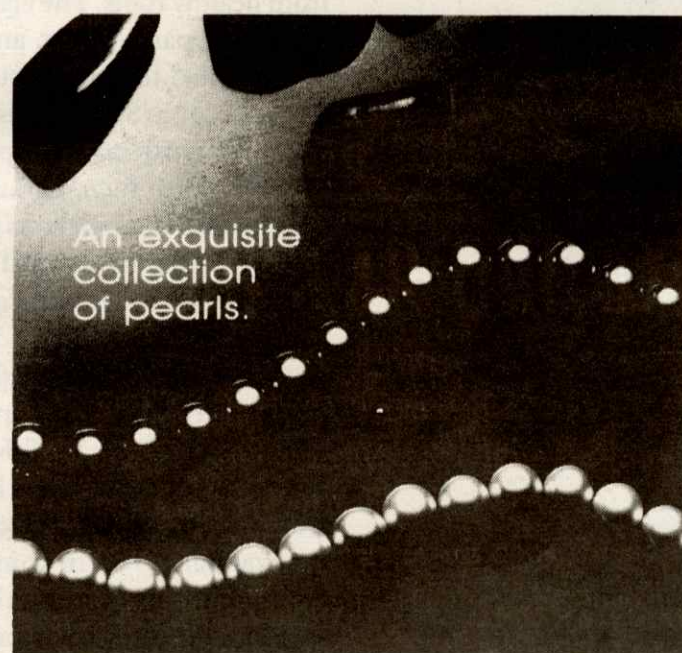
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be active. I'd like to see more active things that are geared towards the gay community. I have this thing about health — we have

not been fully extinguished. Says the 43-year-old high school physical education teacher and summertime carpenter,

nothing that can top this — except, of course, the Games." After a few moments, it seemed that the tide of Tracy's daily reality washed

and the confetti is swept away, Tracy and others like her will return to situations in which they fear or face harassment,

"Lesbians have been stereotyped as being very athletic, and it's great to participate in an atmosphere that is celebratory and supportive of that."

to take care of our bodies. Some people will not play on [straight] teams with all the talking and stuff that goes on out there on the field — it just doesn't feel safe. I think the Gay Games are important for people to get together and meet one another — kind of brings you home together. You can see the numbers [of other gay people] — 700 people playing tennis. That's mind-boggling. That's our whole membership [at The Club]."

John Wurster, 49, is the sole owner of Adventura Travel in Northampton and Amherst and owner of Amherst's Ivy House Bed and Breakfast with his partner, Keith Woodruff. Wurster will be clad in Team Northampton swimming trunks during some of Gay Games IV. "I haven't swum since college thirty years ago," he says. The Harvard Varsity swim team was the last one to enjoy Wurster's freestyle skills before now. "It's fun to be on a team again and exciting to swim with other gay men and lesbians. I think there are going to be about 1,500 swimmers [in NYC]." What does John think about his chances for a medal? "[My chances are] infinitesimal. I'm not doing it to win, I'm doing it for the sport."

Despite the bank-account-withering investment, triathlete Susan Tyler has made in these Games, her enthusiasm has

"Lesbians have been stereotyped as being very athletic, and it's great to participate in an atmosphere that is celebratory and supportive of that, as opposed to interested in placing everyone in a slot."


"Tracy," 33, who asked that her real name not be used, nor her profession mentioned because she fears homophobic backlash at her state job, is traveling to NYC to compete individually in the Tae Kwon Do arena as well as on the softball diamond with her team. Although softball remains her "first love," she feels she has a gift for Tae Kwon Do. After Tae Kwon Do competitions in 1984 and 1985, Tracy was offered a spot on an upcoming U.S. Olympic team if she improved. Unfortunately, knee and shoulder injuries prevented her from Olympic-level training.

Now, rehabilitated, Tracy is eagerly awaiting not only a renewed chance for competition but a celebration of community unlike anything seen before. She anticipates something big, basing her hopes on a trip to the Big Apple's Stonewall anniversary celebration two years ago. Tracy and her partner at the time traveled from Florida for the occasion. "It was just a one-day deal then," she recalls, "but it was incredible. It was just this huge party: a parade 6 miles long, people dancing in the streets. I thought, there is

back in over her memories. "Hopefully, I can let my guard down while I'm there."

Chances are, with 12,000 gay or gay-friendly athletes and another 500,000 supportive spectators in New York City, Tracy will have ample occasion to relax — for a week. Then, when the festivities are over

ostracism, or worse, solely because of whom they love. Hopefully, residual euphoria from events such as the Games will sustain people who encounter that sharp, daily hostility. Perhaps we're headed in the right direction — from all predictions, Gay Games IV will be hard to ignore. ★

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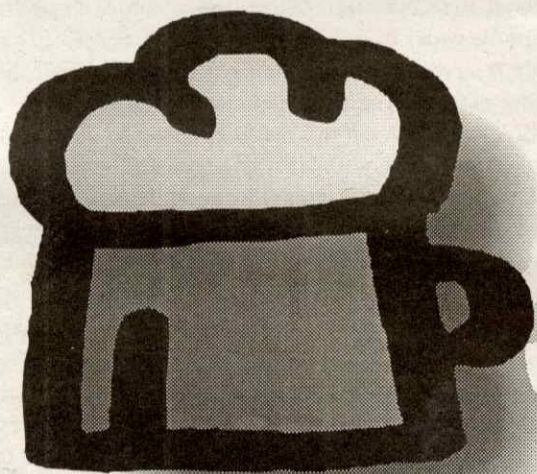
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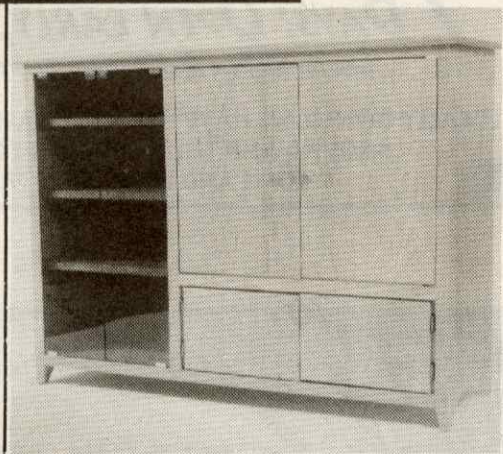
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The Valley's Natural Choice

Views expressed on the *Valley Optimist* Opinion page are not necessarily shared or endorsed by the staff of Optimist Publications. We welcome submissions to this forum. Please provide clear (preferably typewritten) copy and your name and phone number.

Free Speech for the Few

Defining freedom of speech can be a tricky thing. Just as, during the nineteenth century, one man's right to his property often meant someone else's enslavement, today one person's, or more often corporation's, right to free speech can translate into someone else being bludgeoned into silence. Take the recent case of Telecommunications Inc. (TCI) versus the city of Vail, Colorado. When the city government balked at allowing TCI a rate hike, the company "pulled its programming from the air and broadcast, in a continuous feed on every channel of its system, the names and home phone numbers of city officials who were soon blitzed with irate calls from citizens who knew only that their programming had been interrupted. Needless to say," writes Rick Szykowny in the May/June 1994 issue of the *Humanist*, "the city officials quickly came around to TCI's point of view."

This case came to mind as I read Michael Strohl's article "Orthodoxy Equals Unconsciousness" in the May 17 issue of the *Valley Optimist*. Strohl paints the recent controversy over the Amherst *Collegian's* decision to publish an anti-choice insert as a struggle "between those who believe in the sovereignty of free expression and those who bear the instinct to censor the ideas they find to be damaging, false, or offensive." He points to campus feminists, particularly the group POWER (the Progressive Organization for Woman's Rights), as being in the latter category.

Is it philistinism to demand that political discourse be open, as well as spirited? Is it censorship to insist that those who control the media allow the opposition a shot at reaching the American people?

Strohl admits that the insert was "disgustingly mean spirited and anti-woman." He also notes that the *Collegian's* columns have often been characterized by "an anti-feminist sneer." What isn't mentioned is that the *Collegian*, several months before the anti-choice insert appeared, refused to publish a paid-for ad drafted by members of POWER. According to Melanie DeSilva of the *Valley Woman's Voice*, the group was told the *Collegian* had a policy against publishing ads with political content. According to *Collegian* editor Michael Morissey, the paper censors ads that "defame" other advertisers or the paper itself. Publishing such ads "would be crazy," he told the *Boston Globe*. (POWER denied that the ad was defamatory). The *Globe* story goes on to report that several women "said they have quit or have been forced to resign from the *Collegian* because of their criticism of the paper... According to *Collegian* policy, students who work for the newspaper... could lose their positions if they criticize the paper outside of its offices." (*Boston Globe*, April 21, 1994)

And so, it becomes difficult to see the events at the UMass campus as free speech versus censorship. Instead, the *Collegian* is telling us that some censorship, for commercial reasons or to prevent the paper from being embarrassed, is perfectly acceptable, and the *Collegian* apparently reserves unto itself the right to restrict, both on its pages and on campus, any criticism of its own editorial policies.

There is a disturbing context to all this, best expressed by a cliché making the rounds back when I was in journalism school: "It's a free press, if you own one." In the 1980s, the Reagan administration took this truism to heart, jettisoning the fairness doctrine and deregulating the media industry. Since then we've seen an increasing concentration of media ownership in the hands of fewer and fewer companies and individuals, while right-wing ideologues like Rush Limbaugh, Pat Robertson, and a hundred imitators on talk-radio are free to attack "feminazis" and "radical lesbians" without any obligation to present anything resembling an opposing view. This makes the recent debate over "political correctness" especially ironic. Just who is censoring whom?

Furthermore, framing the issues as little more than free speech vs. censorship glosses over some troubling, and by no means easy, questions. In the case of Vail versus TCI, for example, would forcing that company to stop its harassment of city officials be censorship? Would insisting that it allow the city government airtime to explain its position be in violation of TCI's First Amendment rights? Yes, we need, as Strohl tells us, "a dialectic which begs free inquiry and exchange in order to shape future historical truths." And, of course, we need editors willing to print the outrageous, the unpopular, even the fringe. But is there also no need for balance, for simple fairness, for a due consideration of the opposing view? Is it philistinism to demand that political discourse be open, as well as spirited? Is it censorship to insist that those who control the media allow the opposition a shot at reaching the American people? Or in this case, that the editors of the *Collegian* allow campus feminists the same access to their pages that they allow anti-feminists?

The parameters of political discourse should not depend on who holds the purse strings. An inalienable right to free speech isn't worth much if you're only allowed to speak to an empty room.

Fred Pelka
Florence

Beyond the Bike Trail

Valley Bicycles combines customer and community service in the Chain Gang

by Erica Habert

If you are a cyclist, a nature enthusiast, a philanthropist, or, better still, some combination of the three — then put on your breaks for Coull and his Gang.

John Coull, owner of Valley Bicycles Ltd. in Amherst since 1981, has recently started the Chain Gang, a service-oriented group that blends his customers' appreciation of biking with community-minded volunteer work. The mechanics of the Chain Gang are simpler than changing a tire, and the organization offers limitless rewards both to the individuals who participate and to those who will benefit from its services.

Coull got the idea for the Chain Gang after attending a meeting of bikers and conservationists last winter. Issues were raised repeatedly about soil erosion and other problems that develop from heavy use of the Norwottuck Bike Trail, which runs from Northampton to Amherst. Along with other bikers, Coull began to discuss ways to involve more people in the service and maintenance activities related to biking.

"I thought, 'we can be a clearinghouse for [these projects] by contributing our own labor,'" he said. "All the bikers who attended were very enthusiastic." Thus, the Chain Gang was born.

For a \$25 fee, members receive a T-shirt festooned with the Chain Gang's logo and are asked to fill out a contract agreeing to volunteer for bike-related service projects, such as trail maintenance. In return for participation, Chain Gang members earn credit in the amount of \$5 per hour of volunteer work. Chain Gang credit can then be applied to any merchandise in Valley Bicycles' Main Street store. The only restrictions to this agreement are a \$100 per year spending limit per person. So as not to give away the whole store, members cannot pool their credit to purchase a costly item such as a bicycle.

Despite these restrictions, the Chain Gang

project, according to Coull, is "pretty much altruistic." Coull, who has lived in the Valley for some twenty years, is a seasoned philanthropist. Among other organizations, he works with Hampshire Youth 2000, a volunteer-based group which runs service projects with public school students. He is also an active member of the Amherst Conservation Commission and is one of the founders of Community Trust Inc., a group of businesspeople and financiers who are working to create a community-based lending institution.

Though the Chain Gang is just getting off its feet — or, rather, its wheels — Coull is already receiving positive feedback from participants. Haley Priest, who recently spent time on the bike trail picking up trash, said that Chain Gang members could help the Department of Environmental Management repair the damage on the Norwottuck Trail "to really make that bridge between bikers and hikers on the trails."

"Chain Gang members could also help at intersections," said Priest, after hearing the concerns of a mother whose young children encounter bike traffic where the trail meets their street. "That would be a great way to educate people and help make the trail a more pleasurable experience for all."

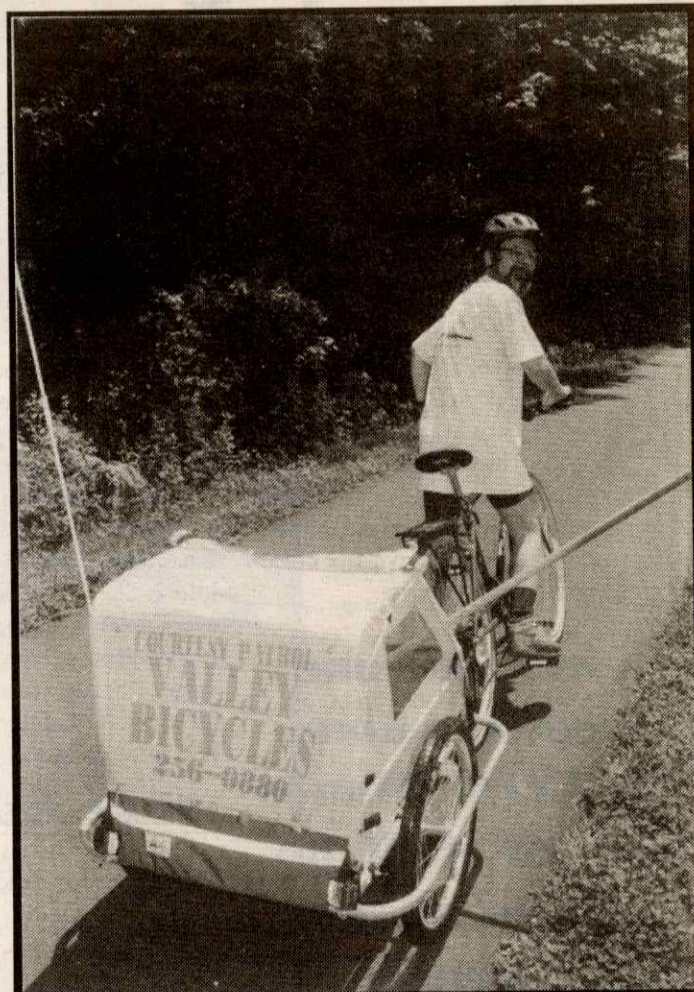
The group has attracted the attention of prominent local figures such as Amherst Chief of Police Donald Maia and State Representative Ellen Story. While Coull's business sense appreciates this recognition for the Chain Gang and for Valley Bicycles, what Coull is most

excited about are the possibilities for offering service to the community on a volunteer basis.

One idea Coull is presently working on is helping blind customers at Valley Bikes to hook up with "captains" to ride tandem bicycles with. "We've helped to find people before," Coull said. "But now it will be

an official function of Chain Gang members." He's also planning to run "bicycling rodeos" for kids to teach them about cycling safety in the context of obstacle courses. Coull welcomes suggestions for volunteer work and encourages people to find ways to incorporate their own ideas into Chain Gang membership.

Chain Gang folks and Valley Bicycle employees will also be holding bike safety clinics. From June 16 to 18 they'll be conducting a "helmet education program" for young bikers at the Holyoke Mall. The event is being spearheaded by a group of doctors from Holyoke Hospital's Emergency Room, who, as Coull noted, know better than most what helmets can do for kids. The program will focus on safety issues and proper equipment for young cyclists. Coull will also be selling children's helmets at a reduced rate, thanks to a generous subsidy from the hospital. Look for them in their Chain Gang T-shirts.



John Coull of Valley Bicycles — Cycling and volunteering is a heavenly match made possible by the Chain Gang.

photo by James Bouthillier

Coull and his Gang might also be visible on the trail these days, picking up trash and assisting with maintenance projects before the summer crowds hit the Norwottuck in droves by bike, tricycle, stroller, and wheelchair.

Said Coull, the trail "gets some of the best use in terms of the number of users of any [state] parks. It's a wonderful success." The same goes for the successful start of Valley Bicycle's Chain Gang, which is consciously and constructively — as their T-shirt reads — "linking bicycling and community service." ★

Though the Chain Gang is just getting off its feet — or, rather, its wheels — Coull is already receiving positive feedback from participants.

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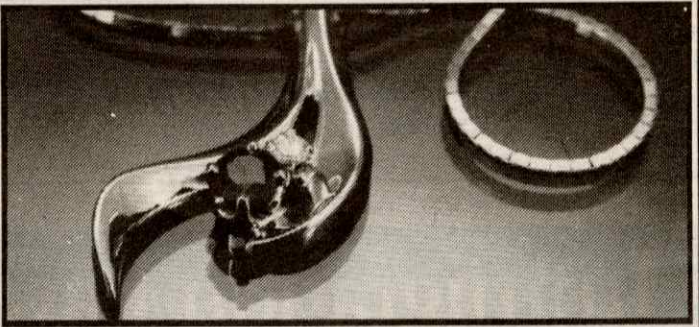
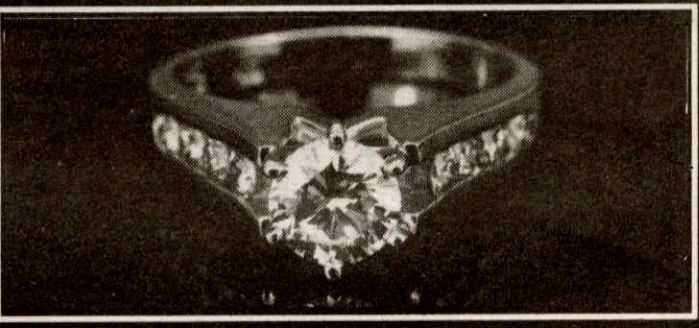
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One Page at a Time

Carol Blinn's hand-printed pages bring the skills of yesterday to a product of today.

by James Mammarella

At the top of a flight of steps in an old brick mill, simple framed works are arranged along the walls. The works seem to be done in finger-painting, the kind of artwork we all learned in kindergarten: spread the pasty paints on wet paper, move the colors around with laughing fingers.

It happens one sheet at a time, and Carol Blinn is master of all the reams, all the inks, master of the chemistries that color the papers — oils and water, acrylics and cellulose.

Under the roof of this mill in Easthampton, there are many separate papers hanging, with hundreds of variations on this invention, this decorated paste paper. Each piece is different: some tease, some hum, vibrant tones here, subtle shades there; some look like frozen waves or wild agate swirls, others bear the stamp of ordered pattern and refined melds of color. Each paper is the hand-crafted work of Carol J. Blinn, owner and operator of Warwick Press.

Using ancient ancestors of the computer and laser printer, Blinn turns her craft into fine books, stationery, boxes, bindings, cards, and announcements. The letter press equipment, formed of cast-iron screws, levers, ratchets, wheels, blocks, and rods, glistens dully in her studio. No Helvetica or Palatino visible here. Blinn's fonts are thin, grey-blue metal shards of mixed zinc, lead, and antimony. When it is time to print, human hand and foot power a delicately ordered compression of

these thoughtfully balanced parts.

It happens one sheet at a time, and Carol Blinn is master of all the reams, all the inks, master of the chemistries that color the papers — oils and water, acrylics and cellulose. She oversees every pressure plate, every swirl of ink, every swipe of the paper cutter (known in the business as the guillotine).

A CHARMED CIRCLE

Blinn says she has been lucky to work with many wonderfully literate creators. Of those with whom she has collaborated, she points to "a charmed circle of first-edition collectible authors." The books she has designed and printed, page by page, in editions of perhaps 150 copies, include *The War Zone* by John Barr, *Blessings* by Andre Dubus, and *These Days* by Raymond Carver. These are people whose craft is language.

The Balinese have said that everything they do is an attempt at creating art. So it is with the daily works of Carol Blinn at Warwick Press. Turning the pages of a simple collection of translated classical haiku poetry can be a tonic for the reader: the touch of the paper, the feel of the impressed type on the page, lulls one into a slow inhalation of the book. Blinn targets her work to an audience with deep appreciation for the presentation of the printed word. That audience can be classified into three distinct markets: college and university libraries, fine and rare book dealers, and individual collectors.

For the maker, the rewards are in the satisfaction of completely crafting a lasting collection with a high degree of quality, and also in working with people who enthusiastically open new areas of knowledge and interest. A two-book set about pipe organ builder Charles Fisk, for example, became an opportunity to work with organ players and restorers from around the world.

NO PUSH-BUTTON PRODUCTION LINE

A sculpture major at Clark University in

Worcester, Blinn evolved into a two-dimensional designer while working at a small publisher in Warwick, Massachusetts. She credits Arno Werner of Hadlyme, Connecticut, for teaching and guiding her early days of experimentation with decorated paste papers. She learned much about letterpress printing working under Harold McGrath's "watchful eye" at Gehenna Press in Northampton.

Besides decorative paste paper, Blinn works with marbling and stenciling techniques. She orders galleys of type from a San Francisco type house, one of the few in



Metal type and hand-turned wheels are Easthampton printer Carol Blinn's tools of choice.

photo by John Cooper

the country still producing metal type in this day of computer graphics and offset and laser printing.

It is safe to assume that most customers shopping for wedding invitations or business stationery would avoid seeking out a printer who makes these things one piece at a time. Warwick could certainly use more business, but Blinn is not about to toss aside her way of getting print onto paper. Her commerce must balance with her craft in other ways.

It is much the same with dozens of other printers and binders of fine books located in Western Massachusetts. They take commercial jobs, they juggle risks the same way all small businesses do, but they hold fast to the old technology because they believe in a way of seeing and working that rings with integrity.

Carol Blinn thinks it would be great to learn how to use a computer setup — to save time and turn out more finished product faster — but her grasp of the value of craft stops her from making that change. There is also a soul-glue that keeps her stuck on the letter press, that invention that gave humanity such a giant boost up the thinking and technology ladders. And there is her outright love of making things by hand, with simple but precise tools.

Warwick Press is no push-button production line. "I do my own leading," Blinn

MAKE A DATE

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

•Connecticut River Valley Businesses for Social Responsibility
"What is Your Deepest Desire in Your Work?"
Sara Schley, consultant with the organizational learning center at MIT
12 noon — 1:30 p.m., Hotel Northampton, Grand Ballroom
For more information: Dan McKenna 256-1528
•Mass. Small Business Development Center & the Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce
Business Planning Workshop: focusing on business management fundamentals
3 — 5 p.m., Council on Aging office, Memorial Hall, 222 Main St., Northampton
To register: 584-1900

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 18 & 19

•Annual Dressage Show
Stoneleigh-Burnham School
For information: 773-8333
•Crafts and Exhibits
Franklin County Fairgrounds
For information: 774-5069
•Intertribal Native American Pow-wow
Indian Plaza, Rte. 2, Charlemont
10 a.m. — 5 p.m. For information: 339-4096

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce
"Nature and You: Environmental Issues Updated"
David Ziomek, director of Hitchcock Environmental Center
12 p.m. at Hitchcock Center
Box lunch \$8 mem, \$10 non-mem. Call to reserve: 253-0700

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Mass. Office of Business Development and the Technology Capital Network
Venture Capital Forum
Contact David Sheehan/Sandra Constantini: (617) 727-3206

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
Annual Meeting/Focus on New Businesses
7:30 a.m. Stoneleigh-Burnham School
\$8. Call to reserve: 773-5463

EVERY SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Hampshire County Business and Professional Women's Club
J.C. Pullman's at the Depot
For membership information: Joyce Paige 584-8645

EVERY MONDAY

Rotary Club of Northampton
6:10 p.m. J.C. Pullman's at the Depot
Debbi Mosher: 586-5366

EVERY TUESDAY

Rotary Club of Easthampton
12:10 p.m. Goldmine Restaurant
Tom Brown: 527-4111

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Rotary Club of Williamsburg
7 p.m. Whale Inn in Goshen
Ken Walden: 268-7246

EVERY THURSDAY

Rotary Club of Amherst
12:15 p.m. Seasons Restaurant
Thad Dabrowski: 253-7054

•MSBDC and Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce
One-on-One Small Business Counseling
9 a.m. — 5 p.m. Land Bank (8 Bridge St.), Northampton
Free. For info: 584-1900

EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH OCTOBER

Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce
Artists Market
9 a.m. — 2 p.m. Amherst Town Common
Call for more info: 253-0700

says (pronounced *ledding*, not *leeding*). She's been at it almost 20 years — and the results continue to please those who run fingers across the pages and eyes over the decorated covers. There is truly a difference when a book's pages have been printed, with care and respect, one at a time. ★

For more information about Warwick Press, write P.O. Box 70-A, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Immigration Law

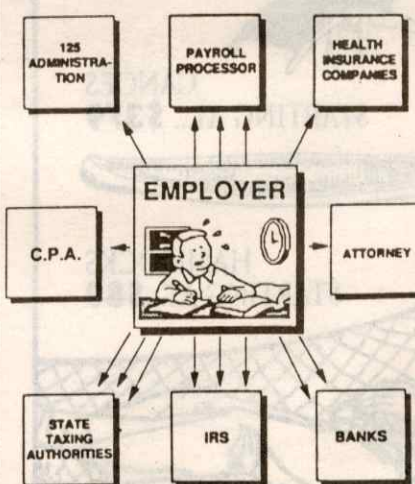
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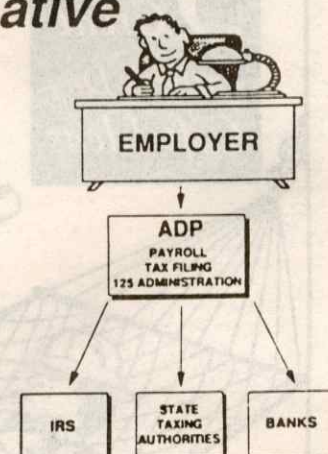
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COMMERCIAL PULSE

ARTS ENTHUSIASTS: TAKE A BOW

The news is eliciting a standing ovation from arts supporters across the Commonwealth: the Senate has approved an increase in funding for the Massachusetts Cultural Council, an agency that supports public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences throughout the state.

The House proposed a \$9.8 million dollar budget for the Council, which is up \$3.5 million from last year. The budget is more generous than it's been in the past two years, making this big news for all who are dedicated to promoting arts and culture in the state.

Barbara Schaffer-Bacon of Belchertown, a longtime arts supporter in the Valley and member of the arts service organization Massachusetts Advocates for the Arts, Sciences and Humanities, said that arts advocates "seem to have been more successful this year in communicating the impact of arts dollars on local communities."

Cultural organizations, artists, communities, and schools all use Council grants to support a variety of cultural activities throughout Massachusetts.

Said Bob Cilman, director of the Northampton Arts Council, "This is wonderful news for a town like Northampton, with so many individual artists and arts organizations based here. We have always had many more requests than money available, and hopefully [the budget increase] will spur even more artistic production in the Valley."

State Representative Ellen Story noted that "despite the Commonwealth's difficult financial circumstances, this year the legislature seems willing to recognize the integral importance that the arts play along with other efforts in revitalizing our economy."

RAPID PULSE

IN AMHERST

• Western Massachusetts Electric Company, University Information Systems, and Continental Cablevision will sponsor a day-long conference on the many business uses of Internet and other interactive media. *Gateways to Productivity* will focus on interactive advertising, workgroup computing, use of information networks to achieve a competitive advantage, Internet resources for business intelligence, etc. Cost is \$65 per person. For information call Jean Graef at the Montague Institute at 367-0245. • Attention Service Business Owners! The Amherst Chamber of Commerce will host a day of business and fun in the Boltwood Walk area on July 23. Highlighting summer bargains and featuring live music and magicians on the Amherst streets from morning until late at night, the Summer Sidewalk Sales and Services Fair is a perfect opportunity to advertise your services. \$25 registration includes a booth space and a card-sized ad. For further information or to register (by June 20), send your check and business card to the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, 11 Spring St., Amherst, MA 01002.

IN NORTHAMPTON

• The Northampton Visitors Center on King Street opens this month, providing welcome travel information to thousands of visitors through Columbus Day. For businesses, the Visitors Center is a fantastic opportunity to reach new customers. Call the Northampton Chamber of Commerce office at 584-1900. • Sub-Modern Studios opens its doors for rehearsals and practice space for musicians and bands of all types. Three Hartford Art School graduates now residing in Northampton are setting up a one-stop musicians' dream with full band production facilities, including 16-track recording, sound-proof rehearsal space, and photography and video capabilities. Call Internal Combustion Productions at 584-7111 for further information.

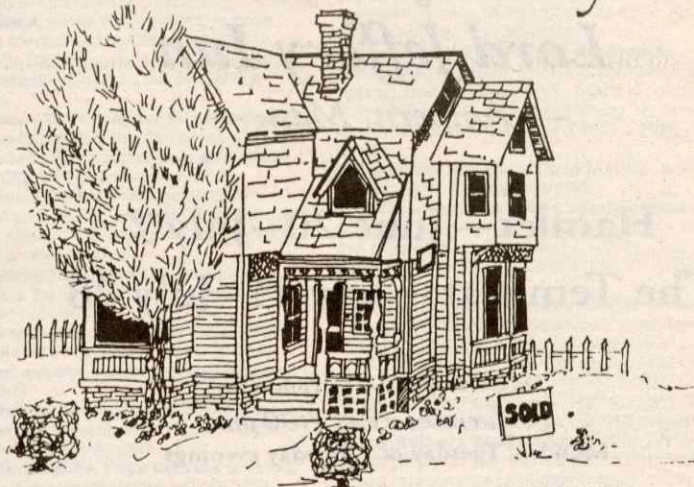
IN THE VALLEY

• Eat, drink and be merry! 34 of the area's finest restaurants will sell sample-sized portions of their specialties June 15 - 19 during *Peter Pan Taste of Springfield*. Come and savor food from eight new restaurants and enjoy traditional favorites from Antonio's Grinders, Friendly's, and many others while enjoying the music of Pioneer Valley musicians on the City Hall Esplanade. The five-day food festival is presented by Spirit of Springfield, Inc., a private non-profit organization whose mission is to promote community events and encourage civic pride. *Peter Pan Bus Lines* sponsors this 11-year-old event, which will take place from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and from noon - 8 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call 733-3800. • Expand your computer repertoire with summer evening courses on Desktop Publishing on the Mac, Understanding IBM/MS DOS, and others at Springfield Technical Community College. For more information call IME at 589-7844. • The National Development Council offers Professional Certification Programs in Economic Development Finance, Business Credit Analysis, Real Estate Finance, and other areas. Call NDC for more information at (606) 291-0220. • Are you looking for a unique way to impress your clients, hold an informal business meeting, or treat your hard-working employees to a company outing? Then why not board the Quinnetukut II Riverboat and cruise the scenic Connecticut with your significant business associates? The 60-passenger vessel can be chartered for a private hour-and-a-half cruise for \$300. For more information or reservations, call Northfield Mountain Environmental and Recreation Center at 659-3714. • One-stop permitting for any business seeking environmental and other state permits for facility construction and expansion will be a reality in Massachusetts by the end of June. This service will be provided by the Massachusetts Office for Business Development. Call 784-1580 for additional information. ★

—Erica Habert

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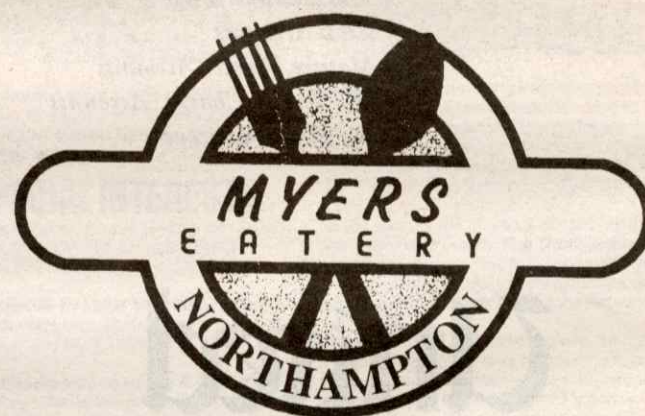
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- 14 The Big Six
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AUGUST

- 4 Vicki True
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Center All-Stars
- 18 Dean Carbone
- 25 Jay Messer

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Marion Groves

The Clay Menagerie

Artist Pat Uchill Simons fires up her creatures of clay

by Lorelei Kaufman

Most people name their pets; artist Pat Uchill Simons creates hers. An artist for over 30 years, Simons is known for her unique way of making a living — crafting clay creatures by hand.

Whether a dragon or a basset hound, every animal she creates comes spinning off her potter's wheel. Simons' technique involves "throwing" several hollow tubes on the wheel and fitting them together with a torso, also thrown on the wheel, to form a basic animal shape. "I have fun creating known animals out of clay," said Simons, "and playing with the plastic quality of freshly thrown cylinders to exaggerate folds and features and incorporate the illusion of movement." Each animal takes on its own character when fired in her 2,300 degree kiln. The pieces are twisted and wound when Simons throws them on the wheel, so the firing process makes them "slightly untwist, as if they are dancing in the kiln."

The Denver-born Simons earned her BS in Design at the University of Michigan. After ten years of teaching, she went back to school for an MFA in Ceramics from the University of Chicago and later for an MAE from Rhode Island School of Design. She said it was one of her first teaching experiences that encouraged her to develop and improve her skills in ceramics. "When I first started teaching art, I knew very little about ceramics, so when I had to fire the students' clay projects, I blew them up," she said. From then on, Simons took the skills that bloomed out of necessity and made them her career.

Simons first developed her "animal" theme 20 years ago, when she moved to Hawaii with her husband and two children. "I can't remember when I haven't been interested in creating clay animals," she said. Since Simons had not been a resident of Hawaii for more than three years, she was unable to teach in the school system, so she began to focus her artistic talents on another profession. "I wanted to establish my identity as an artist," said Simons. One afternoon, her son came home with a "push-me pull-you" toy, which gave her the idea to use two-headed animals as handles for her functional pieces. She later tried to find animal shapes that would lend themselves to more than just lids and handles. "I found that a camel worked really well for a teapot: the head for a spout, tail for a handle, hump for a lid, and the legs — well, the legs for the legs." Camels led to aardvarks, then to elephants, dogs, dragons, and, before she knew it, Simons had a zoo full of functional critters.

Besides sculpting animals, Simons does commission work for those who desire an artistic rendering of their favorite pets. The price depends upon the size of the animal, its stance, the complexity of surface texture, and whether Simons has worked out the basics of that particular animal.

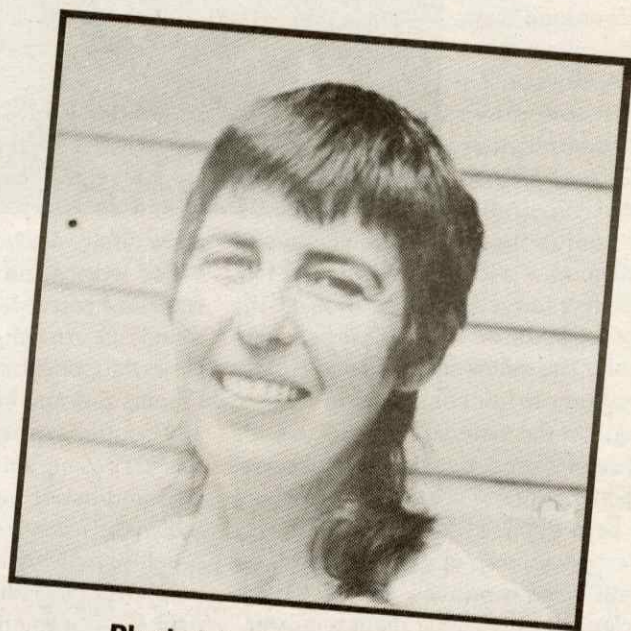
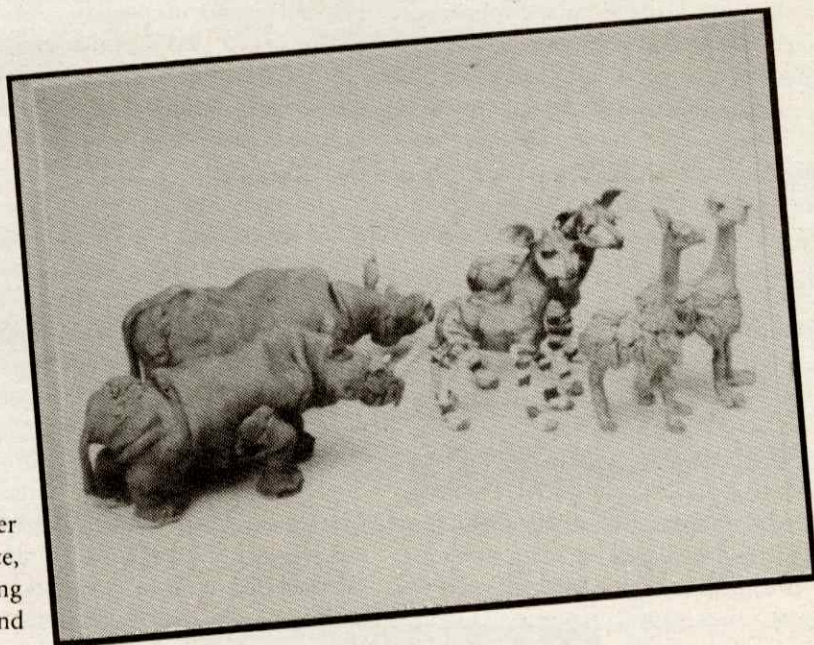
Simons took the skills that bloomed out of necessity and made them her career.

Although the artist spends most of her time working in her studio in Providence, Rhode Island, she is often found lecturing and giving demonstrations at schools and artists' collectives. She works with everyone from elementary school students to senior citizens. "I have found that my teaching experience has given me quite a background in working with people and doing hands-on demonstration," she said. Simons recently visited the Leverett Elementary School, where she lectured and gave an interactive workshop for the students. Ted Hallstrom, the school's principal, said, "Pat was fabulous. I watched a number of the sessions. In each, the kids were completely engaged and enthralled." Simons finds that no matter what age, people enjoy working with clay to create their own art, and animals provide a familiar and enjoyable theme.

Simons' artwork has been exhibited all over the United States. "I am drawn to shows that have funny names," she said. A show in 1973, "A Mad Potter's Tea Party," set the tone for the ensuing years. Since then, she has been in shows called "Creatures From the Ark and Some Who Missed the Boat," "It's Raining Cats and Dogs," and other creative collections.

For the Valley's viewing pleasure, Pat Simons' circus is always in town at Skera Gallery on Main Street in Northampton. "We have been showing Pat's work for five years now, with a great response," Harriet Rogers of Skera Gallery said. Go see the fantastic menagerie; you may not be able to resist taking one home.

For more information about Pat Simons' creations and workshops, write Pat Simons at 160 Atlantic Avenue #4, Providence RI 02907.



Rhode Island-based artist Pat Simons: "I can't remember a time when I haven't been interested in creating clay animals."



New Releases

INDIGO GIRLS — *SWAMP OPHELIA* (EPIC)

The Indigo Girls are in a glorious rut. The good songs just keep coming, bolstered by the most talented vocal pairing in pop music, but there is less and less reason to care. The cover of *Swamp Ophelia* shows Emily Saliers and Amy Ray in trumped-up costume party outfits, looking overdressed and uncomfortable — not unlike the CD itself.

During their stunning Amherst College pre-tour concert on April 23, the Indigo Girls proved once again that they are one of the few folk acts to tap into the mainstream without losing their creative fire. The new *Swamp Ophelia* songs fit perfectly into their graceful, raw live set. The Indigo Girls did not bring a band that night, forcing themselves to pare down the new songs to their most basic acoustic and vocal elements.

For the studio release of *Swamp Ophelia*, the Indigo Girls have done the maddening opposite: they've taken a solid collection of songs and overdone them, bogging them down with intrusive orchestration and unwelcome complexities. 1992's *Rites of Passage* proved the Indigo Girls could sound commercial and still sound good — a lesson few crossover folk artists have learned. How the Indigo Girls forgot that lesson on *Swamp Ophelia* is inexplicable. The follow-up to *Rites of Passage* is a bad time to lose confidence in the bare strength of the material. The Indigo Girls need a bench press, not a beauty makeover.

A better target for creative change would have been the lyrics. On *Swamp Ophelia*, the terrifying creep of new age blandness into the lyrics continues. *Rites of Passage* was clouded with babble about reincarnation, but this also gave the album a yearning focus, and out of that mystical brood came personal revelations, stated in fresh ways ("Ghost," "Love Will Come to You"). *Swamp Ophelia*'s songs do not strike similar chords. The confessions seem aimless;



the philosophical bits wander. One can't help but long for the poetic vigor of "Closer to Fine," their 1988 signature song, or even "Prince of Darkness," one of the last Indigo Girls songs to look at the underbelly of human experience without the perfume of self-help.

The album's most potent songs — "The Fugitive," "Touch Me Fall," and especially "Least Complicated" — are all marred by ill-chosen orchestration, some of it even grating against the melody lines of the songs. Few songs achieve that exhilarating live flight. "The Fugitive" comes close, but is finally too slow to take off, overrun by horns and lingering tempo changes. "Touch Me Fall" could have been truly great (indeed it has been labeled a "hit" right on the packaging), but it does not *hit*. It should build up to a frenzied electric finish, but it picks up, then tapers off — more caustic violins, more indecision — and then picks up again, but we don't care anymore, and aren't even startled when the songs ends far too abruptly.

Swamp Ophelia's best-realized songs come near the end — rare for the Indigo Girls. "Woods" transcends its faults with a beautifully-delivered chorus. "Fare Thee Well," written and sung by Emily Saliers, is the one pared-down song, and its spare sound cuts so much deeper. "Train Revised" closes the CD with startling lyrical boldness ("bone, piss and blood in a railroad car/100 people gypsies queers and David's star"). The song's Holocaust imagery is specific and harsh, very different from the Indigo Girls' standard — and now very tired — self-reflective fare. The song's lyrical purpose gives the Indigo Girls something to fight for, rousing them from the mid-life Valium of schmoozy fund-raisers and photo shoots with Jackson Browne. On this one track, everything works. The bag of studio tricks is hauled out, but this time for a reason. The orchestration is angry and perfect, pushing the vocals forward with unparal-

leled energy.

"Train Revised" points the way to a promising, edgy future. If the Indigo Girls stop spit-polishing their songs and instead focus on saying things they haven't said before (1987's "Strange Fire," a barely-veiled reference to lesbianism, would be a good creative starting point), they will push forward.

— Jon Reed

FRANK BLACK — *TEENAGER OF THE YEAR* (4AD/ELEKTRA)

Whether he's Frank Black, Black Francis, or good ol' Charlie Thompson, the years of name-gaming have finally taken their toll on the man: *Teenager of the Year*, Frank Black's follow-up disc to last year's eponymous debut, is the soundtrack of an artist suffering from schizophrenia. And while ex-Pixie Kim Deal has the last laugh with her Lollapalooza-bound Breeders, weird Frank seems determined to stagger around the desert looking skyward for UFOs and talking to himself.

The very title of Frank Black's *Teenager of the Year* is a knowing wink at his own lack of success with his solo career (MTV gave his videos the cold shoulder, and last year's tour came and went without much fanfare). He obviously doesn't mind. His new disc throws caution to the wind, offering a sprawling 22-song smorgasbord of styles, held together only by his undying obsessions with sex, space travel, and rock and roll.

Much like one of those 3-D "Magic Eye" pictures so popular at mall kiosks, *Teenager of the Year* requires a bit of concentration before things come into focus. Each song is so musically and lyrically complex that it takes a few listens before the hooks finally sink in. The intricate arrangements are

played flawlessly by Frank Black's crack back-up band, comprised of Eric Drew Feldman (formerly of Captain Beefheart's Magic Band and Pere Ubu) and Nick Vincent (who once drummed for Donny and Marie!). Extra guitar fireworks are supplied by Morris Tepper (also from the Magic Band) and longtime cohort (and fellow former Pixie) Joey Santiago.

There's surprisingly little excess on the hour-long disc, which starts off with a playful mock-Zeppelin intro before exploding into one of its many highlights, "Whatever Happened to Pong?" Good songs abound, from the ZZ Top-meets-Steely Dan-on-Mars shuffle of "Big Red" to the liberating

guitar blast of "Freedom Rock," not to mention "Fiddle Riddle," a goofy reggae number complete with flatulent synthesizers and flamenco guitar. Even the lesser tracks are saved by an inspired touch, like the disjointed blues coda tacked onto the end of the "I'm Not Your Steeping Stone"

retread, "Pure Denizen of the Citizens Band." It's also interesting to note that the only song Frank Black utilizes his trademark "Pixies scream" for is "Two Reelers," which sings the praises of the Three Stooges: "Most important was brother Moe/He was the one who made it so/He got a Joe and then another Joe/He would not quit/He would not quit!...What we need is more silly men."

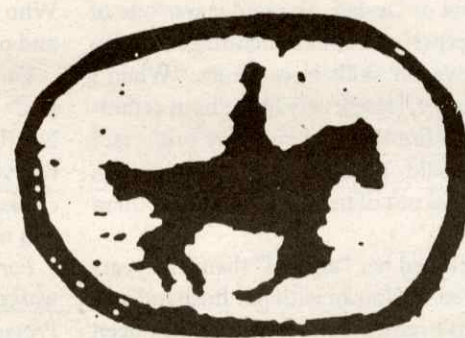
Teenager of the Year finds Frank Black once again charting his own musical universe. And while the alternative audiences of America have their eyes locked on the main stage of Lollapalooza, maybe someone will look up to see that weird shooting star, making his way over the horizon to get ready for next year's reappearance. ★

— Ken Maiuri



What's Spinnin' in the Valley Sponsored By Main Street Records

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| LOCAL MUSIC | 1. Various artists — <i>Hotel Massachusetts</i> (Chunk) |
| | 2. Unband — <i>Chung Wayne Lo Mein</i> (Moonpig) |
| | 3. Bob Evans/Alloy — <i>split 7-inch</i> (Skene) |
| | 4. Squeek — <i>Gl*nk</i> (Toxic Lollipop) |
| | 5. Bubo — <i>Don't Mind Me</i> (General Ludd's Library) |
| FOLK/COUNTRY | 1. Johnny Cash — <i>American Recordings</i> (American) |
| | 2. Leo Kottke — <i>Six and Twelve String Guitar</i> (Rhino reissue) |
| | 3. Leo Kottke — <i>Peculiaroso</i> (Private) |
| | 4. Bob Woodruff — <i>Dreams and Saturday Nights</i> (Asylum) |
| | 5. Brownie McGhee — <i>Complete</i> (Columbia) |
| ALTERNATIVE/ COLLEGE | 1. Beastie Boys — <i>Ill Communication</i> (Capitol) |
| | 2. Stone Temple Pilots — <i>Purple</i> (Atlantic) |
| | 3. David Byrne — <i>David Byrne</i> (Warner Bros.) |
| | 4. Sonic Youth — <i>Experimental Jet Set, Trash, and No Star</i> (DGC) |
| | 5. Sausage — <i>Riddles Are Abound Tonight</i> (Interscope) |
| JAZZ | 1. Turtle Island String Quartet — <i>Who Do We Think We Are?</i> (Windham Hill) |
| | 2. Louis Prima and Keely Smith — <i>Louis and Keely</i> (Jasmine reissue) |
| | 3. Marty Ehrlich — <i>Can You Hear a Motion</i> (Enja) |
| | 4. Rob Wasserman — <i>Trios</i> (GRP) |
| | 5. Bob Moses — <i>Time Stood Still</i> (Grammavision) |
| CLASSICAL | 1. Benedictine Monks of Santo Domingo — <i>Chant</i> (Angel/EMI) |
| | 2. Gavin Bryars — <i>Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet</i> (Point) |
| | 3. Yuri Khanin — <i>Five Smallest Orgasms op. 29</i> (Olympia) |
| | 4. Penderecki — <i>Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima</i> (EMI reissue) |
| | 5. Carl Vine — <i>Microsymphony</i> (ABC) |



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Wednesday June 15

Steve Forbert plays his wry Southern folk at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton with Michael Kroll at 7 p.m.
Lea Delaria, lesbian comic extraordinaire, takes over Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Jerry Marchand plays Celtic harp at the Northampton Brewery (584-9903) at 8 p.m.
Reggae Party at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.
Country Western dancing at the North Star with DJ from 8-11 p.m.
Gay Night dancing at Pearl Street from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., music provided by Spin Inc. 21+.

Thursday June 16

Joe Sallins, master of the piccolo bass, performs at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Jimmie Vaughan, blues guitarist, is at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Chantarelle plays "musique de Québec" at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.
Scud Mountain Boys play their harmonic country at the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton with Hoolapoppo's Tom Shea at 10 p.m. 21+.
18+ dancing at Pearl Street from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. with music provided by Spin Inc.
Blues and Cues, featuring live piano music and barbeque specials, at Squire's Smoke and Game Club (268-7222) in Williamsburg from 7 p.m.-10 p.m.
Open Mike Blues Jam at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.
Boyz' Nite Out at the North Star with DJ Mike Kusek and male go-go dancers from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Open Mike Night at the Mole's Eye Café (802-257-0771) in Brattleboro.

Friday June 17

Adrian Belew, guitar wizard on tour supporting his new disc, Here, plays Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton with Psychodots at 7 p.m.
Andrei Ryabov and Andrei Kondakov perform Russian jazz at the Montague Bookmill (367-9206) at 8 p.m.
Shirley Lewis performs blues at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Walley Grainey Duo performs blues at the Hotel Northampton (584-3100) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. No cover!
Mimi Kates, noted New Hampshire songwriter, appears at the Green River Café (773-3312) in Greenfield at 9 p.m.
Peg Loughran performs new-folk music at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.
Check, Please! play the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton with Raymond and the Circle at 10 p.m. 21+.
Art Steele Blues Band is at the Rynborn (603-588-6162) in Antrim, New Hampshire.
Crosswinds plays the Ivanhoe Restaurant (736-4881) in West Springfield.



The Lyres know how to make true rock 'n' roll. Featuring a driving rhythm section and their trademark '60s organ-based sound, the band puts on one of the sweatiest shows around. After more than a decade of performing together, the Lyres, who appear on the local *Hotel Massachusetts* compilation, are the hardest working band in rock 'n' roll. Check them out at the Bay State in Northampton on Saturday, June 25, with area mainstays Hoolapoppo and Miss Reed at 10 p.m.

Pioneer Valley

Ivories will be tickled at the Northampton Brewery on Wednesday, June 22. Pianist Tom McClung, along with Steve McCraven on drums and Nat Reeves on bass, will perform an original, swinging brand of trio jazz that is sure to make some heads bob with musical satisfaction. Showtime is 8 p.m.

Larz Young plays solo acoustic (info 586-5880) at Campus Pizza in Hadley at 6 p.m.
Dancing with DJ Bob at Pearl Street 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. 21+.
18+ Dance Party with DJ Betsey at the North Star. 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Saturday June 18

Northern Lights play bluegrass, southern rock, pop, country, folk, jazz, swing, gospel, and blues at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Ray Mason Band rocks the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton with the Rent Party at 10 p.m. 21+.
One Journey, a New Age group, plays the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.
Ellen Cogan Duo gets jazzy at the Hotel Northampton (584-3100) from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. No cover!
Russ Thomas, known as "the Singing Doctor," performs his original songs at the Green River Café (773-3312) in Greenfield at 9 p.m.
Who's Who is at the Ivanhoe Restaurant (736-4881) in West Springfield.
Johnny Copeland plays Pearl Street (584-7810) in Northampton with Mark Nomad Band at 8:30 p.m.
West End Blues Band is at the Rynborn (603-588-6162) in Antrim, New Hampshire.
Larz Young plays solo acoustic (info 586-5880) at Campus Pizza in Hadley at 6 p.m.
Club HMP live radio dance party at Pearl Street. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. 21+.
21+ Dance Party with DJ Steven at the North Star. 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Island Dance Party with DJ Dan at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.

Sunday June 19

Rod MacDonald, native of the Greenwich Village folk scene, is at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton with Kevin Connolly at 7 p.m.
Dig, a six-man, three-guitar, wall-of-grunge group gets loud at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton with Lucy's Fur Coat at 7:30 p.m.
Minibus and Borderland play a double-bill at the Northampton Brewery (584-9903) at 10 p.m.
Retro Dance Nite at the North Star with DJ Betsey and female go-go dancers. 9:45 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Monday June 20

Lou Donaldson, master of bebop, brings his alto saxophone and backup jazz band to the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Blue Monday at the Bay State Cabaret with Ed Vadas & the Fabulous Heavyweights. No cover! 21+.

Tuesday June 21

Joe Keenan, "travelin' man hobo," takes the stage at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
The Young Dubliners play a free show at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 8 p.m.
Open Mike Night at the Northampton Brewery with host John Lees at 10 p.m.
Open Mike Night at the Green River Café (773-3312) in Greenfield at 8 p.m.
Open Mike Night at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.

Wednesday June 22

Taj Mahal, self-taught master of over a dozen instruments, plays the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
Tom McClung, Steve McCraven, and Nat Reeves play the Northampton Brewery (584-9903) at 8 p.m.
Open Poetry Night at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst at 7 p.m. Free!
Reggae Party at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.
Gay Night dancing at Pearl Street from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., music provided by Spin Inc. 21+.
Open Music Night at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst at 7 p.m.
Country Western dancing at the North Star with DJ from 8-11 p.m.

Thursday June 23

Solitary Glam mini-fest featuring Amy Fairchild as Joan Jett, Meg Taylor as Mick Jagger, and Swampgrrl as Blondie with Lesley

Drawing from a repertoire of Caribbean and West African music, American jazz, Southern folk, and the blues, Taj Mahal takes his audiences all over the musical world. As the self-taught master of over a dozen instruments, he has become widely known as one of the most versatile interpreters of the blues. Taj Mahal will play the Iron Horse in Northampton on Wednesday, June 22, at 7 p.m.

Smith as Deborah Harry at the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton at 10 p.m. 21+.
Junior Brown plays Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 8 p.m.
Leticia and Rico are at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.
Radio Kings, a Boston based blues band, bring their show to the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.
18+ dancing at Pearl Street from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. with music provided by Spin Inc.
Blues and Cues, featuring live piano music and barbeque specials, at Squire's Smoke and Game Club (268-7222) in Williamsburg from 7 p.m.-10 p.m.
Open Mike Blues Jam at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.
Boyz' Nite Out at the North Star with DJ Mike Kusek and male go-go dancers from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Open Mike Night at the Mole's Eye Café (802-257-0771) in Brattleboro.

Friday June 24

Jeff Buckley, critically acclaimed singer-songwriter (and son of late-'60s folk artist Tim Buckley), takes the stage at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 10 p.m.

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June 23rd: LETICIA & RICO	New Folk	\$3
June 24th: JOHN SHELDON	Blues Rock	\$3
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June 30th: MARCIE BROWN	Jazz	\$3

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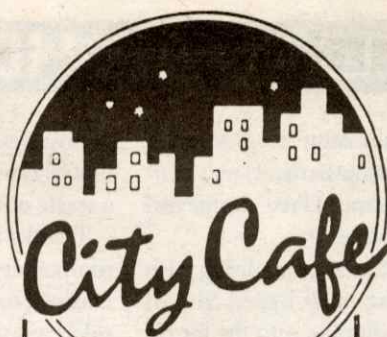
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8pm to Midnight



Stephen Bracciotti knows no boundaries. Mixing up a little classical guitar technique, contemporary song style, jazz harmonies, and the lyricism of folk songs, Bracciotti makes his own brand of warm, intimate music. The songwriter and guitarist will play selections from his new disc, *Café Des Arts*, at the Black Sheep Café in Amherst on Thursday, June 2, at 8 p.m.

Versus, indie-rock at its finest, electrifies the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton with Miles Dethmuffin and Philth Shack at 10 p.m. 21+.

Trout Fishing In America, a unique guitar and bass duo, play the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m. Barry and Holly Tashian sing country/bluegrass duets at the Montague Bookmill (367-9206) at 8 p.m.

Mahlathini and the Mahotella Queens perform at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 7 p.m.

John Sheldon performs blues and rock at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.

The Dave Robinson Trio plays blues at the Hotel Northampton (584-3100) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. No cover!

The Saints perform at the Ivanhoe Restaurant (736-4881) in West Springfield.

Gideon Freudmann and Tony Vacca "push the limits of cello and world percussion" at the Green River Café (773-3312) in Greenfield at 9 p.m.

DD and the Road Kings play blues at the

Rynborn (603-588-6162) in Antrim, New Hampshire. Larz Young plays solo acoustic (info 586-5880) at Campus Pizza in Hadley at 6 p.m.

Dancing with DJ Bob at Pearl Street 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. 21+.

18+ Dance Party with DJ Betsey at the North Star. 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Saturday June 25

G. Love and Special Sauce, touring in support of their much-lauded blues/rap debut, are at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 9 p.m.

Hotel Massachusetts-palooza featuring Lyres, Hoolapopper, and Miss Reed at the Bay State Cabaret (584-8513) in Northampton at 10 p.m. 21+.

Ellen Cogen Duo performs jazz at the Hotel Northampton (584-3100) from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. No cover!

Richard Berman, songwriter extraordinaire, is at the Black Sheep Café (253-3442) in Amherst.

Maple Ridge Bluegrass Band performs at the "Pickin' In the Pines" Bluegrass Festival at Look Park (info. 773-7428) in Northampton from 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Don Bastarache's Ten Piece Big Band swings your socks off at the Ivanhoe Restaurant (736-4881) in West Springfield. No cover!

Andrei Ryabov plays jazz guitar at the North Star (586-9409) in Northampton from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Purly Gates Trio, comprised of a singer, guitarist, and banjo player, plays swing, jazz, and fiddle tunes at the Green River Café (773-3312) in Greenfield at 9 p.m.

Chuck Morris and Sidewalk Blues are at the Rynborn (603-588-6162) in Antrim, New Hampshire.

Larz Young plays solo acoustic (info 586-5880) at Campus Pizza in Hadley at 6 p.m.

Island Dance Party with DJ Dan at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.

Club HMP live radio dance party at Pearl Street. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. 21+.

Dance Party with DJ Steven at the North Star. 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Sunday June 26

Hal Benoit is at the Northampton Brewery (584-9903) with Love Junkyard at 10 p.m.

Song and Story Swap, hosted by the Pioneer Valley Folklore Society, is at the Montague Bookmill (367-9206) at 4:30 p.m. Free!

Slowpoke and Doom Nation play a local-music double bill at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 7:30 p.m.

Voices of Reason perform at the North Star (586-9409) in Northampton at 7:30 p.m.

Artie Traum is at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton with Amy and Leslie at 7 p.m.

Retro Dance Nite at the North Star with DJ Betsey and female go-go dancers. 9:45 p.m. - 1 a.m.

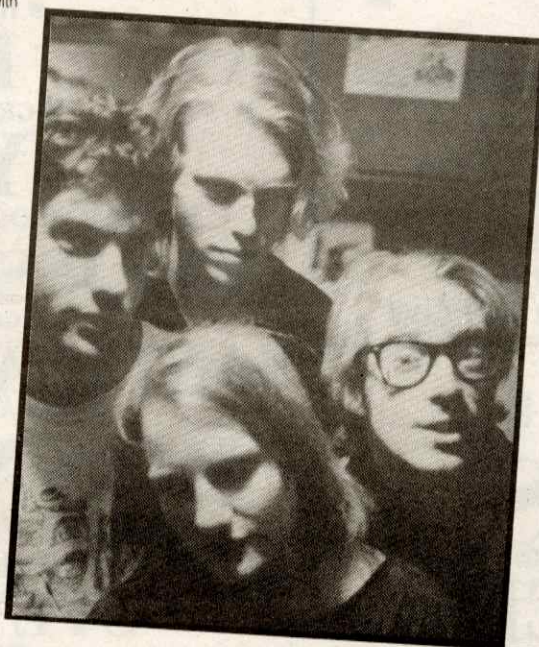
Monday June 27

Tower of Power blow down the house at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton with the Heavy Metal Horns at 8 p.m.

Open Stage at the Iron Horse in Northampton with co-hosts Varsh and Rick Murnane at 7 p.m.

Blue Monday at the Bay State Cabaret with Ed Vadas & the Fabulous Heavyweights. No cover! 21+.

He opened for the Beatles in 1966; she recorded with country favorites Nanci Griffith and Delia Bell. Together, Barry and Holly Tashian are known throughout Europe and the U.S. as one of the finest acoustic acts performing today. The couple has appeared everywhere from the Grand Ole Opry to the Swiss Alps Country Music Festival, and will bring their acclaimed country/bluegrass duet music to the Montague Bookmill on Friday, June 24, at 8 p.m.



Tuesday June 28

Zap Mama sing at Pearl Street (584-7771) in Northampton at 7 p.m.

Classic Jazz Epochs, featuring Jim Fryer and Jeff Barnhart, at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.

Open Mike Night at the Northampton Brewery with host Chairman at 10 p.m.

Open Mike Night at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.

Wednesday June 29

Ellis Paul celebrates the release of a new album at the Iron Horse (tickets 586-8686) in Northampton at 7 p.m.

Lesley Smith and friends perform at the Northampton Brewery (584-9903) at 8 p.m.

Reggae Party at the Hadley Pub on Rte. 9.

Country Western dancing at the North Star with DJ from 8 - 11 p.m.

Gay Night dancing at Pearl Street from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., music provided by Spin Inc. 21+.

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STEVE FORBERT PLUS MICHAEL KROLL

THU 16

JOE SALLINS

FRI 17

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SAT 18

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MON 20

WRSI 95.3 FM PRESENTS

LOU DONALDSON

TUES 21

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WED 22

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FRI 24

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FRI 24

10PM

JEFF BUCKLEY

SUN 26

ARTIE TRAUM PLUS AMY AND LESLIE

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TUES 28

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WED 29

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THU 30

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JULY 1

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THURS. 6/16

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FRI. 6/17

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SAT. 6/18

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SAT 6/25

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Rock Bottom

by Jeff Allard

The *Flintstones* proves once and for all (it'll set it in stone) that cartoons should remain as cartoons. Despite the long line of films that have successfully brought comic book and comic strip characters to the screen (such as *Batman*), only one film previously has tried to trans-

a measure of true pain. After *The Flintstones*, Universal (if not Hanna-Barbera) may consider changing the name of Fred's home turf from Bedrock to Tombstone.

No sort of big studio merchandising push is going to keep the most hyped film of Summer '94 from slipping into the tar pit reserved for giant bombs. Unlike *The Last Action Hero*, though, this isn't the result of an ego run wild — rather it's just the end result of a bad idea. As for many, the promise of seeing the modern Stone Age family "come to life" held a surface-level appeal to me — one of those "wouldn't it

themselves were conceived as a simple parody of *The Honeymooners* is to realize what a waste of time this film was to them.

Thanks to the impressive effects, it is a momentary pleasure to see the daily life of Bedrock on screen. Dino himself is almost solely worth the price of admission (apparently the Rubbles' pet, Hippity-Hop, wasn't in the budget). One admires the craft of the illusions, but after being dazzled, little remains. *Jurassic Park* wisely allowed its effects to enhance its story, not to tell it. *The Flintstones* relies solely on spectacle. But unlike *Batman's* Gotham City or *Blade Runner's* futuristic L.A., Bedrock is a town that has a very limited appeal as eye candy. After all, it's only a pile of rocks (and phony ones at that). And where the realistic motion of the *Jurassic Park* dinosaurs was stunning and frightening, the dinos of *The Flintstones*

have little more to do than move stones in the Slate quarry. A better idea for a film may have been to combine *The Flintstones* with their space age counterparts, *The Jetsons*. To split a full length feature into two separate stories or bring both together via some sort of time travel plot might have been novel enough to sustain a feature. In truth, *The Jetsons* probably would've lent itself to film better, being closer to a live-action show to begin with than *The Flintstones*.

While *Jurassic Park* was set in a potential theme park, *The Flintstones' Bedrock* is appealing only as a theme park. While it seems like good fun to stroll through its recreation of a Stone Age metropolis, to pretend that a multimillion dollar movie should have been made from a cartoon whose biggest claim to fame is bad rock puns is pure madness. ★

After *The Flintstones*, Universal (if not Hanna-Barbera) may consider changing the name of Fred's home turf from Bedrock to Tombstone.

form animation into flesh and blood dimensions — 1981's disastrous *Popeye*. So while *The Flintstones* may not save us from enduring greedy, idea-starved Hollywood's mania for claiming new and outsized riches from junk television (*Gilligan's Island* is in development as we speak), it'll most definitely roll a deservedly heavy boulder over the future of cartoon adaptations. Bringing them into live action takes a believable fictional world and turns it into a theme masquerade. Whereas accepting the reality of the animated Bedrock takes no special leap of imagination, the "real" Bedrock is only so much Styrofoam.

Popeye had done a good job of shying studios away from such folly (and putting Robert Altman's career on hold for years), but obviously some lessons need to be learned with

be neat if..." notions. But a short way into *The Flintstones*, neatness gives way to an uncomfortable inner vacuum. I know that no one who stood in the ticket line with me expected Hamlet (or even *Wayne's World*), but I've never had to pay seven dollars to browse through Toys 'R' Us. To watch *The Flintstones* is to sit through a feature-length merchandising pitch, one that gets its only laughs by lifting directly from the cartoon. Once you've seen John Goodman slide down the brontosaurus' tail, you've seen the movie. While the cast is wonderful, the perfection of the performers only makes the whole idea of the *Flintstones* movie seem even more shameful. Watching four talented actors struggle to breathe life into two-dimensional non-characters (who

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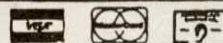
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The Company of Women

Interview with director Allie Light

by Joni Fraser

In 1963, soon after voluntarily entering a mental health facility in San Francisco, Allie Light saw a fellow patient running down the corridor shouting, "the president's been shot!" "All these years," Light says, "I've wanted to tell people where I was when Kennedy was shot. I was always so afraid that someone would ask me, and I would have to say I was in a mental institution. Well, I was."

Light appears before the camera to tell her story in *Dialogues with Madwomen*, a new documentary that she directed and co-produced with Irving Saraf (the two shared an Oscar for their 1991 film *In the Shadow of the Stars*). The film also introduces six other articulate women of diverse ethnicity, race, age, and sexual orientation who have suffered some form of mental illness, or what Light calls "the dark side of the imagination." While documenting harrowing instances of family violence and sexual and emotional abuse, the film (which opens at the Pleasant Street Theater on June 24th) finds its inspiration in the survival, growth, and ultimately the hopes of the women it profiles.

Speaking on the phone from Los Angeles, Light notes that all the women in the film were women she knew very well. Two were

students of hers at San Francisco State: Hannah, a manic-depressive obsessed with Bob Dylan, and DeeDee, a lesbian Catholic who was beaten by nuns and developed an obsession with self-mutilation. She met others — Susan, a woman shuttled between abusive parents; Mairi, a victim of incest who developed multiple personalities as a way of coping; and RB, an African-American who became a bag lady after she was raped when in law school — through mutual friends. The film was hatched, though, when Light met Karen Wong,

an Asian-American woman whose intense involvement in radical politics left her with no chance to develop herself, at a writers union meeting, and they exchanged stories.

"When I made the film, I had no idea who the audience would be," Light said, "I was really making the film for any woman like me in 1963, who was sitting in her house and feeling very isolated and depressed." Another reason she made the film is her strong belief that "if you give a woman a platform, she'll be articulate about her life. I wanted to show that we women can speak for ourselves. When you see *Oprah*," Light continued, "the format is oriented to give you 'emotional sound bites' that manipu-

"If you give a woman a platform, she'll be articulate about her life."



Allie Light, director and film subject from *Dialogues With Madwomen*.

photo by Jim Block

late your feelings but do little else. You never get the chance to know what the women thought about their experience; it doesn't give the women the opportunity to analyze their own lives," which is something that women in *Dialogues* do with insight and sophistication.

One of the most compelling parts of Light's and Saraf's film is the use of reenactments to illustrate and amplify the actual memories of the interviewees. I wondered how the women felt about it, especially RB, now a singer/composer and lawyer, who dramatized her episodes as a street person. Light said that "she loved it and also had a lot of directorial input in scenes. She let us know exactly what she wanted and didn't want." In the process of illustrating her own

experience of being sexually abused at the age of four, Light cast her son as the molester. She found that by directing the scene, and using someone she loved, she could free herself from the terror of the past.

Central to several of the women's experiences is involvement with the counter-culture of the '60s, and the film is frank about showing how it both made people sick and made them well. Karen Wong became involved in a Marxist-Leninist group that demanded she commit all her energy and money to the group. "You're bound to see that sometimes it was unhealthy," says Light, who also noted that when making the film, Saraf admitted, "I'm

continued on page 30

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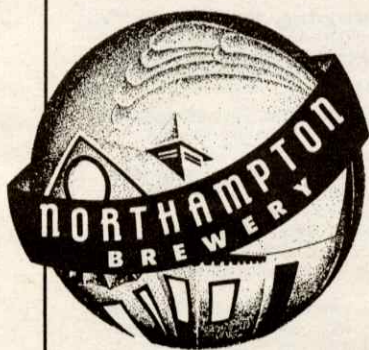
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PERFORMANCES

Dance, music, and folklore of Africa are being presented in the performance **The Art of Black Dance and Music** June 15 at 7 p.m. in the Sunken Garden at the Porter Phelps Huntington Museum in Hadley. For more information call 584-4699.

Chorus Lines, a concert of Broadway tunes and traditional works, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Granby. Admission is free.

Matthew Roehrig, baritone, and Albert Huetteman, piano, will perform on June 15 at 8 p.m. in the Amherst College Alumni House. They will perform arias from **Handel's Messiah** and **Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro**, among other popular works. Call 413-545-0519 for more information.

Bill Crofut, banjo, and Chris Brubeck, trombone, will perform on June 18 at 8:30 p.m. at the **Cranwell Opera House in Lenox, Massachusetts**. They will be performing music spanning the generations, from Bach to Dave Brubeck. Call 413-243-1343 for more information.

Show Boat, the epic saga of life on a Mississippi show boat, through June 18 at the North shore Music Theatre in Beverly. Call (508) 922-8500 for ticket information and specific show times.

Mount Holyoke College announces its **Summer Theater Season**, which runs June 21 – August 13. Among the featured performances this summer are *You Can't Take it With You* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. For more information call 413-538-2632.

Voice Of The Turtle, a concert highlighting the traditional music of Jewish people in Spain, will take place June 22 at 7 p.m. at the Porter Phelps Huntington Foundation in Hadley. Call 413-584-4699 for more information.

The Ted Shawn Theatre season, part of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, will take place June 23 – August 27, with an opening gala scheduled for June 25 in Becket, Massachusetts. Call 413-637-1322 for more information.

How the Other Half Loves, a farce about falling in love, will be performed June 24 – July 9 at the Whetstone Theatre Company in Brattleboro, Vermont. For more information, including show times, ticket prices, and season subscription requests, call 802-257-2600.

Winslow Homer wood engravings through September 11 at the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts. Call 739-3871 for more information.

The Delaney House welcomes **The LaValley Duo** every weekend at 7:30 p.m. in the lounge. Their numbers will be romantic and contemporary. They even take requests.

Residential Arts, a program of the UMass Fine Arts Center, has released its calendar of performances, events, and exhibits for Spring 1994. Call 545-2804 for more information.

ART EVENTS/EXHIBITS

Town Grown/Town Shown is a unique exhibition of paintings, crafts, photographs, and mixed media by area artists. Twenty downtown businesses will offer their storefront windows as display cases for the exhibit June 15 – 30.

Three Painters: Ron Kim, Renate Vendrig, and Lisa Whelan, an exhibit exploring space and symbol, collapsing the boundaries between image and abstraction. On view at HoHo's Canal Store and Gallery-Café in Holyoke June 16 – 30.

Paintings and Drawings by Alfred McClung Lee III will be on view at the Pahana Gallery (413-584-2727) in Northampton June 18 – July 17. An opening reception will be held June 18 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

A trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum** is planned for June 18, sponsored by the Springfield Library and Museums Association. Call 413-739-3871 for more information.

The Life and Death of Northampton State Hospital, an exhibition of historical and contemporary photographs, artifacts, and employee interviews, through June 19 at Historic Northampton. Call 584-6011 for more information.

Recent Works, an exhibition of collective artwork from ten members of Brattleboro's cooperatively-run Windham Art Gallery, will be showing through June 26. An open forum with the artists will be held June 20 at 7 p.m. For more information call 802-257-1881.

The Pioneer Valley Folklore Society's Family Folklife Traveling Exhibit, featuring works that reflect the diversity of ethnic and cultural experiences in Western Massachusetts, through June 20 at the Hubbard Memorial Library in Ludlow.

Mixed Works, an exhibit of works by over 20 local and national artists, through June 22 at the Greenfield Galleries. Call 774-4481 for more information.

The Worcester Arts Museum concludes its film festival with **"Boyz n' the Hood"** June 23. For further information call 508-799-4406.

2/D - 3/D Multidimensional Art through June 24 in the Hart Gallery at the Guild Art Centre in Northampton. Call 586-4278 for more information.

Saints and Friends features 18 full-length portraits by Pittsfield native Jain Tarnower. The exhibit is on view from June 25 – September 11 at the Berkshire Muse (413-443-1717) in Pittsfield. An opening reception is planned for June 26 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Japanese Woodblock Prints: the William Green Collection, and American Woodblock Prints of The Arts and Crafts Era: the Andrew Terry Keats Collection through June 26 at the Mead Art Museum on the Amherst College campus. Call 542-2335 for more information.

Max Beckmann Prints from the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art, through June 26 at the Williams College Museum of Art in Williamstown. Call 413-597-2429 for more information.

Scenes of Summer, an exhibit by area artist Jill Washor, through June 29 in the second floor gallery of the Forbes Library.

Black & white and color photographs by area artist Kathy Glennon through June 29 in the Photo Gallery of the Forbes Library.

Mother Tongue, a community visual dialogue, through June 30 at the Canal Gallery. Call 532-4141 for gallery hours.

Above the Shadow, paintings by Janice Sorenson, will be on exhibit at the Montague Mill Gallery (413-367-9206) through June 30.

Burst of Summer, paintings by Nancy Miller, will be displayed at Joel McFadden Designs in Greenfield through June 30. For more information call 413-253-9859.

Leonard Anthony DeLonga: Modern Master of Medieval Metalwork at the Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester (508-853-6015) through July 3.

Gently Down the Stream: Wolf Khan and the Connecticut River, an exhibition of work by landscape artist Wolf Khan, through July 3 in the Sales and Rental Gallery of the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts. Call 739-3871 for more information.

Worcester's Face, by photographer Patrick J. O'Connor, is an exhibit of 42 oversized original portraits of Worcester's intriguing personalities. The collection will be on view at the Worcester Historical Museum (508-753-8278) through July 3.

A display of musical instruments will be at the Rice Gallery in the Worcester Museum of Art through July 7. For more information call (508) 753-8278.

Recent Woodblock Prints and Paintings by Judith Langland will be displayed through July 7 at the Burnett Gallery in the Jones Library in Amherst.

Aspects of Dürer: Prints, Drawings, and Books through July 10 at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art

Deadline for calendar submissions is the Tuesday before publication. Please direct all material to Calendar Editor, Optimist Publications, 13 Old South St., Northampton, MA 01060.

Institute of Williamstown.

English Silver: Masterpieces by Omar Ramsden from the Campbell Collection through July 10 at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute. Admission is free.

A Distant View - Pioneer Valley Landscapes through July 18 at R. Michelson Galleries in Amherst. Call 253-2500 for more information.

Geometry in Our World, a participatory exhibit, at the Springfield Science Museum through August 7. Call 733-1194 for information and admission fees.

Connections: Mark Tansey, an exhibit highlighting the working method and artistic preference of Tansey, through August 7 at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston (617-267-9300 ext. 448).

Fleeting Pleasures, an exhibit exploring the variety and complexity of 19th century Japanese woodblock prints, will be on view at the Williams College Museum in Williamstown through August 14.

Cowboys, Vaqueros and Buckaroos, a collection of Western Americana, will be at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum in Springfield through August 28.

Guided tours at the Porter Phelps Huntington House Museum (584-4699) in Hadley through May, Saturdays – Wednesdays 1 – 4:30 p.m.

Extensive calendar of events for children and adults at the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield. For a com-

plete listing call 443-7171.

It's **carriage rides and dinner** season at the Deerfield Inn! Every Tuesday through Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Call 413-774-5587 for more information.

San Francisco Symphony Orchestra Series broadcast on WFCR 88.5 FM Thursdays at 9 p.m. through June. CHILDREN/YOUTH

The Children's Museum in Boston (617-426-6500) will have a **Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival** June 18 from noon – 4 p.m.

Creepers and Crawlers will be presented June 18 from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the Arcadia Nature Center and Wildlife Sanctuary (584-3009) in the Northampton area.

Kids will have a chance to explore the grounds and all of Arcadia's natural wonders with their parents.

Bring your children and their favorite teddy bears to the Shea Theater in Turners Falls June 18 at 2 p.m. and hear Gary Rosen perform his award-winning songs at The Shea Theater's **Teddy Bear Jamboree Concert**. For more information call 413-863-2281.

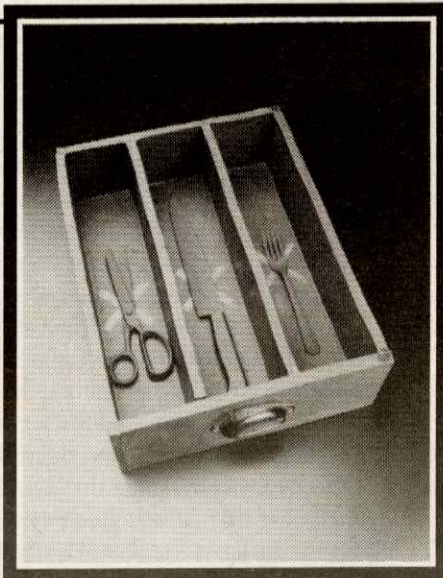
Kidcare '94 at the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside. This special one-day event June 18 from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. will feature a full schedule of entertainment, prizes, and health-related exhibits. Call 413-534-2532 for more information.

The Children's Museum in Holyoke (413-536-KIDS) is hosting a **Father's Day** June 19 from noon – 5 p.m. Kids can perform a puppet show, among other things, for their dads.

Shattered Images

Horror images reflect a mere fragment of the anguish endured by survivors of domestic violence in the compellingly realistic exhibit *On the Home Front*. The exhibit, featuring work by local artist Rebecca Graves, consists of a series of etched mirrors bearing the words of women who have survived family violence. "It's hard to separate yourself from these people's experiences when you see your own reflection in the mirrors," says Graves. Area artist Holly Murray expands on the theme of viewer involvement by sculpting re-creations of actual places, many in the Springfield area, where family violence has occurred. Murray's sculptures serve as microcosms of the ongoing violence that women in their homes fall victim to every day. She was inspired to create her work after diligently reading articles on domestic violence in Western Massachusetts over the span of one year. The nationally travelling exhibit will be on view at the SIS Center in downtown Springfield June 13 through July 16, with an opening reception June 17 from 4 – 6 p.m. For more information call 413-596-9372 or 413-585-8445.

— Anne-Marie Mascaro



plete listing call 443-7171.

Milt Woodjack: Jewel Paintings and Helen Edgar: Collages at the Glass Lily (263-6155) in Longmeadow.

Exhibition of **Sister Maria Joseph Nace's watercolor landscapes and florals** at Frameworks Gallery in South Hadley. Call 533-9443 for information and hours.

Women of the Flowers, paintings by Claudia Zimmerman, are on display at La Boutique Panthea (586-8511) in Northampton.

EVENTS

Walking tours of important archaeological sites in the Village of Deerfield will be held from 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. June 15, and depart from the Hall Tavern Museum. For more information call 413-774-5581. All programs are free and open to the public.

June 15 – 19 Springfield will host its annual food tribute, **Taste of Springfield**. Call 413-733-3800 for more information.

Building Our Swords Into Plowshares, a cooperative home building project in Franklin County, is holding an open house June 17 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. in Greenfield at the site of their new building in progress. For more information call 413-772-6683.

Opening weekend at **Holyoke Heritage Park Railroad, Inc.** June 18 – 19. Daily train departures with guided tours of the historic valley are offered to more than 150 guests. Call 413-534-1723 for more information.

Fire Chief Convention June 18 – 20 at 9:30 a.m. at the Springfield Civic Center. Call 413-787-6645 for more information.

The HoHo/Canal Gallery in Holyoke (413-532-4141) will hold their annual fund-raising event June 18 from 7 p.m. – 12 p.m. Raffles and auctions will be held, along with a musical performance by "Flamingo Express."

A book signing with author Susan J. Douglas will be held June 25 at 1 p.m. at the Jeffery Amherst Bookstore in Amherst. The author is a professor of media and American studies at Hampshire College, and has just finished her new book, *Where the Girls Are - Growing Up Female with the Mass Media*.

The Deerfield Inn will feature a **Cajun Theme Dinner** June 26 at 6 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-926-3865 for more information.

The Pioneer Valley Folklore Society will host a **gathering at the Montague Mill** to sing and tell stories on June 27 from 4 – 5:30 p.m. For more information call 413-367-0101.

Annual Peer Institute convenes June 27 – 30 to discuss alarming issues facing youth today: violence, HIV, racism, and other pertinent issues. The Institute will be held at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass. For more information, call 617-451-0049 ext. 818.

WFCR 88.5 FM will broadcast **Lyric Opera of Chicago** Saturdays at 1:30 p.m.

WFCR 88.5 FM will broadcast **Club Del Sol**, an hour-long Latin music series, on Saturday nights at midnight.

WFCR 88.5 FM is currently broadcasting **Concerts from the Library of Congress**, Mondays at 9 p.m.

Join WFCR 88.5 FM as they chat about cars in **Car Talk** at 4 p.m. on Sundays.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

If you are a local independent filmmaker and are looking for an opportunity to pool ideas, share resources, and meet with colleagues in the area, Artists on the Edge is establishing a film group. If interested call Tony Bellotti at 256-4908.

Book Discussion Group meets monthly at members' houses. Taste runs from Didion to Skvorecky. For information call Debbie at 259-2016.

Two Support Groups for HIV-Positive Women are ongoing in the area. For information and registration call Jan Luzzi (773-8888) or Kevin McVeigh (586-2016).

Parents Anonymous has started a group in Northampton for those who want to improve their relationships with their children, Thursdays from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Call (800) 882-1250.

A Course in Miracles study group meets Tuesdays, 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Call David P. Carney, MSW, at 253-2902.

Better Breathers support group through June 22 offered by the Cooley Dickinson Hospital and co-sponsored by the American Lung Association, for persons who feel physically or emotionally limited by asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema. Call 582-2119 with inquiries.

Ongoing Parkinson's Disease Support Group, which gives support to PD patients, families, friends, care-givers, and supporters, has four different groups and various meeting times and locations. For information call Ruthie (584-2192).

Cancer Support Group, an open-ended group for patients, family, and friends, meets the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 3:30 – 5 p.m. in the Main Conference Room at Holyoke Hospital. Call Debbie Legrand (534-2526) for meeting times and more information.

Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Support Group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in South 4 Conference room at Holyoke Hospital. Call Carole Pothier at 533-7695.

Mother to Mother Sharing is open to all mothers in the Birthing Center at Holyoke Hospital every Monday, 1 – 3 p.m. Topics covered are breast-feeding, bottle-feeding, newborn care, and more. Call Launa Cebula at 534-2700.

The Stroke Club, for survivors of strokes and their families, meets every Thursday and Friday at 10 a.m. in the South 4 Conference Room of Holyoke Hospital. Patients must have a physician's referral prior to joining the group. Call Esma Ezzat at 534-2508.

Family and friends of cancer patients meet at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at the Church of the Apostles in Belchertown. Call Joan Gibson at 253-3133.

Surviving Grief, ten-week programs held in Amherst, offer support through education and sharing. Call Joan Gibson at 253-3133.

Contact Western Mass. Intergroup Office (532-2111) for **Alcoholics Anonymous** information, meeting times, or locations.

Pathways to God, a study group on the teachings and writings of Indian Holy Man Sathya Sai Baba. Free of charge. Every Thursday, 6 – 7:15 p.m. Call 253-2902 for location.

The **Paradise Coalition** is a grass roots support group providing special events, projects, and meetings for consumers, survivors, and concerned others. For information, call Joel at 586-5548.

LECTURES

Art critic Gloria Russell will present **"American Impressionism after Child Hassam"** June 16 at 12:15 p.m. in the George Walter Smith Art Museum of Springfield.

Oasis of Amherst offers a free Friday night lecture series throughout the summer. The topic of June 17 is **"Theater Alive!"** and the June 24 topic is **"The Shamanic Journey."** Call 256-4995 for reservations and information.

Dr. Donald D'Amato will **"de-romanticize" World War II** in a two-part lecture-discussion series, June 21 and 28 at the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum of Springfield's education center. Call 732-3080 for information.

The Calico Bookshop is pleased to announce an ongoing **lecture series on traditional American art forms**. Call the bookshop in South Hadley for information on upcoming speakers and events at 536-3245.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Early registration for fall semester classes at the **Community Music School of Springfield** will be held June 14 – 17. For fees and information, call Kristen Martino at 732-8428.

Renowned screenwriter Jeff Kitchen will teach a **screenwriting and playwrighting seminar** at the Hotel Northampton June 17 – 19. For information, call Will Beams at 549-0504.

Sleeveless Theatre will offer **Beginning Comedy Improv** and an **Advanced Improv Group** beginning June 28 and 29. Call Lisa Channer at 584-6211 for information or to register.

The New England Art Therapy Institute will offer **"Gateways to Creativity,"** a workshop exploring creativity as a gateway for personal transformation, July 31–August 5. Call 665-4880 for information. Those who respond by June 18 will get a substantial price reduction.

A Massage Therapy Certification Information Meeting will be held June 18 at the Stillpoint Center in Hatfield; it will be free and open to the public. Call the Center (247-9322) for information.

Stanley Park of Westfield will host the annual Saturday morning **Gardening Workshop Series** monthly through October 1. The classes will be held from 9 – 11 a.m. in the sheltered pavilion. Call 568-9312 with inquiries.

The University of Massachusetts will offer a community **horseback riding program** at the Hadley Farm this summer. The second session runs from June 6 – July 1 and the third session runs from July 5 – 29. Call 549-2863 or 545-2312 for information.

Valley Women's Martial Arts, Inc. offers ongoing beginner classes for new students starting the first full week of every month. To register call the VWMA at 527-0101.

Allies In Safety, an ongoing mother-daughter self defense class, will be held at the Wildwood School in Amherst, Thursdays from 7 – 8:30 p.m. through June 16. Call 256-4065 to register.

A Creative Writing workshop, using the Amherst Writers and Artists method, will be taught by Rebekah Boyd, published writer and MFA candidate, Wednesday evenings from 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. in Northampton. Call 586-9747 with inquiries.

Watercolor Landscapes, outdoor watercolor classes with Paula Gottlieb, MFA, will run on Tuesdays and Saturdays through June 21. Call 665-7215 to register.

A new Amherst Writers and Artists Workshop on **Creative Writing** every Tuesday through June from 7 – 9 p.m. For information or registration call 584-5264.

Longmeadow Writers & Artists offers creative writing groups for adults and children. Day, evening, and weekend sessions are available. For information call Barbara Cramer at 567-8457.

Y.E.S! Youth Empowerment and Safety Program is offered by Nancy Rothenberg for boys and girls ages 6 – 12 at The Barn Studio in Amherst on Tuesdays from 3:30 –

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

5 p.m. Call 585-1661 for information or to register.
Self Defense for Women is offered by Nancy Rothenberg at the Wildwood School, Wednesdays from 7 – 8:30 p.m. through June 15. Call 256-4065 for information.
SERIOUS PLAY! Intensive Theater Training will run July 11 – 23 at Smith College and Thorne's Art Space with instructors Lisa Enzer and Sheryl Stoodley. Call 586-1438 for information or a brochure.

DBS Consulting Service is offering hands-on training courses for several computer applications this summer. For registration or information call 772-2526.

Adult Indonesian Kung Fu classes at the East Street Studios in Hadley (585-1661) Mondays from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Enrollment is ongoing.

English as a Second Language is a free ongoing course offered by the International Language Institute to residents of Franklin and Hampshire Counties. For more information call 586-7569.

Dori Ostermiller, MFA, will lead two new 8-week creative writing classes beginning in July. A **women's writing workshop** meets in Northampton on Monday evenings, and a **writers in progress workshop** meets Thursdays at the Montague Bookmill. To register call 586-0242.

The Art Loft in Erving, which recently had its Grand Opening, will be offering Stone Carving, Beginning Printmaking, Basket Making, Calligraphy, and Painting in Oils in June; Summer Camps and Workshops begin in July. Call (508) 544-0223 for information or registration.

The Barn Studio (253-3008) in Amherst offers a variety of movement, dance, and drumming classes for children and adults. Usually three classes are offered every day, including **Aerobic Dance, Yoga, Afro-Latin Jazz, Dance/Movement Therapy, Beginning and Intermediate Classical & Folk Dance of India, Beginning African Dance**, and many more! Call the studio for information on times and dates.

Six Personal Computer Workshops offered by UMass teach new wordprocessing skills and application of software packages, and also expand the participants' capabilities on personal computers. Contact Adventures in Lifelong Learning, Division of Continuing Education (545-0474), for information or to register.

Small Business Community Roundtable meets every Tuesday of the month from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at Vision Works in Greenfield. Open to all owners or prospective owners of small businesses in the area. Call 772-6569 for information.

Mudpie Potters has space open in potters' co-op and in classes for both children and adults. Mudpie is located in Leverett Crafts and Arts building. Call Donna Gates (259-1505) for more information.

Afro-Cuban Jazz with Wayne Kelly is held every Monday from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at The Barn Studio in Amherst. Call 256-8906 for location.

Advanced Poetry Workshop (Ed Rayher 256-8531), a peer-critique workshop for accomplished and published poets, held alternate Thursdays at 7 p.m. in Northampton.

Music lessons are available at the Northampton Community Music Center (585-0001). Private lessons are offered on a variety of instruments for adults and children.

The Worcester Art Museum is accepting registration for **summer youth art classes**, which include Introduction to Commercial Design, Carved Stone Sculpture, Film and Animation, and Natural Art, Artful Nature. Call (508) 799-4406, ext. 263 or 264, for a free brochure or to register.

The Worcester Art Museum is accepting registration for its **summer adult art courses**, which include Beginning Drawing, Watercolor, Calligraphy, Photography, and many more. For a brochure on classes or information about registration call (508) 799-4406, ext. 263 or 264.

Creative Writing Workshop with Carlen Arnett, writer of 20 years, at the Open Door in Williamsburg, welcomes new and experienced writers to work from mixed media exercises Wednesday nights. Enrollment is ongoing. Call 268-9218.

Free Basic Skills ESL classes for immigrants and free English classes at the Jones Library in Amherst. Call the library (256-4090) for schedules.

Hampshire Elderhostel program is offering several courses for senior citizens 60 years and older in June and July. For information and registration call Lenny Bowen at 582-5502.

Children's Modern Dance with Suzanne Spencer from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. and from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. every Thursday at The Barn Studio in Amherst. Other classes are also offered. Call 256-6733 for information.

Jazzercise Classes in Deerfield, Greenfield, and Sunderland for all levels of fitness. Call 665-7130 for further information.

Song and Dance Classes in the African and American traditions at various times for all levels of experience at the Northampton Center for the Arts. Call 584-8748.

Come explore your inner self; **Journey Meditations** now offered at **Epigee** every Tuesday from 6 – 7 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 – 10 a.m. No charge. Call 584-5070 for more information.

A **Weight Management Without Dieting Workshop** and an **Eating Disorder and Body Image Therapy Group** will be offered by Tina Aurland, MEd, throughout June and July. Call 247-9019 for more information.

Yoga classes with Ruth Anne Lundeborg will be offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights throughout the summer. Call 586-3259 for information.

OUTDOORS

June is membership month at **Springfield's Forest Park Zoo**. Call 733-2251 for information.

Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center will present the slide show "The Moisie River: Labrador Plateau to the St. Lawrence" on June 25. The center also offers tours, boat rides, and special programs, and features historic exhibits, hiking trails, camping, and canoe rentals. Call the center at 659-3714 for details.

The **Franklin-Hampshire Freewheelers Cycling Club** is sponsoring an "All Around Phillipston" ride June 19 and "McCusker's Last Stand," a 50-mile ride featuring lunch at McCusker's, June 26. Call Dale Lougee (508) 249-4145 about the Phillipston ride and Bob Kowaleski (584-5874) about McCusker's.

The Amherst Astronomy Association conducts **Public Observatory Observing** every clear Saturday in June at 9 p.m. at the Amherst College Wilder Observatory, and **Public Solar Observing** every clear Sunday in May at 1 p.m. on the town common. For information call Tom Whitney at 256-6234.

The Arcadia Nature Center and Wildlife Sanctuary will host a **Wildflower Wednesday** June 15 and a Mosses walk June 16, both at Graves Farm.

The **Hitchcock Center for the Environment** will conduct a White Mountain trip led by two naturalists June 17 – 19, a hike to Titan's Piazza June 18, and a land walk around the Mill River Conservation Area June 25. Call 256-6006 for information or registration.

The Valley Astrological Association meets the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the Hampshire Mall in Hadley. Call 253-9450.

HEALTH/BODY

Holyoke Hospital will offer **"Weight Management for Life,"** an eight-session series, beginning June 6 at 5:30 and 7 p.m. in the hospital's auditorium. Call Nancy Coley or Sharon Casey at 534-2599 to pre-register.

The Hampshire County AIDS Task Force & Western Mass. Women & AIDS Network will hold an **AIDS educational forum** June 15 from 7 – 9 p.m. in the main conference room of the Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton. The Massachusetts Prevention Center will sponsor a free

women's health forum, **"Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention: Start Young... But it's Never Too Late,"** June 21 at The Depot restaurant in Northampton. Pre-registration by June 13 is strongly encouraged. Call 584-3880. Holyoke Hospital will present **"Pregnancy After 30"** June 21 at 7 p.m. in the South-3 Conference Room.

"Diabetes Self-Management," Holyoke Hospital's Diabetes Education Program, will be held in the Hospital's Main Conference Room on Thursdays in June at 1:30 p.m. Call 534-2500 for information.

A six-week series aimed at **increasing self-esteem of girls age 11 – 13** meets Fridays from 4 – 5:30 p.m. through the end of June at Holyoke Hospital's Michelson Clinic. Call Christine Morrison at 534-2536 to register.

Ongoing **Parent Education Classes:** Prepared Childbirth, Breast-feeding, Pre- and Post-Natal Exercise, Siblings, and Mother to Mother, are being held at the Birthing Center at Holyoke Hospital. To pre-register call 534-2700.

GLB EVENTS/INFO

"Lesbians and HIV/AIDS," an educational panel co-sponsored by The Hampshire County AIDS Task Force and the Western Massachusetts Women and AIDS Work Group, will be presented Wednesday, June 15 at 7 p.m. in Conference Room A of the Cooley Dickinson Hospital. For more information call Amy at 584-2016.

Valley Women's Martial Arts, a non-profit school and service organization for women and children, seeks women to form a project for lesbians interested in the arts as part of the "Lesbian Empowerment Project." An organizational meeting will be held on June 15 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at VWMA in Easthampton. Call 527-0101 if you plan to attend.

Stonewall 25, an international march affirming lesbian and gay human rights, June 24 – 26. The Greater Boston chapter of the National Organization for Women is providing NOW-chartered airplane flights and NOW-chartered buses to New York with departures Friday (plane only) and Saturday, and Sunday flights for same-day return. Call 617-782-1056 for further information.

Women interested in playing softball in the **Gay Games IV** please contact Leah at 665-3513.

LEAH (Lesbian Education and Health, 586-2016) offers free comprehensive physical exams, mammograms, and education of breast health to lesbians over 40 with no insurance and to younger lesbians with a family history of breast cancer.

Discussion/Support Group for gay and bisexual men Fridays from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in Room 311, 16 Center Street in Northampton. Call 585-5819.

Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics therapy group Tuesday evenings in Amherst. Call LifeCourse Counseling

The Products of Thriving Local Culture

Art will soon burst forth onto the streets of Northampton in a midsummer celebration of flora and community. The Town Grown /Town Shown art exhibition will feature paintings, photographs, crafts, and mixed media work by thirty professional area artists inspired by the Northampton Community Gardens, including Robert Tobey ("Northampton, Early April" pictured), Charles Hunter, Barry Moser, Deborah Rubin, Paul Shoul, and Barbara Levine.

Over 250 gardeners grow vegetables and flowers at the Northampton Community Gardens, located on the grounds of the old State Hospital; local artists have been inspired by its products for decades. From June 15 – 30, twenty downtown businesses will feature the artists' works in their front windows for the public to view. The show is curated by local gardener/artists Diane Nelson and Sheena See as part of a continuing effort to preserve the gardens as a space to be valued and enjoyed by gardeners, artists, children, tourists, and the entire community. Take a stroll downtown and see what has flourished!

— Sarah Larson

Trisha Brown Company (June 14 – 18), the U.S. premiere of Nederlands Dans Theater 3, and other nationally and internationally renowned dance artists from June 14 – September 4. Call 243-0745 for ticket information.

The Philadanco and Dayton Contemporary Dance Company join together in the performances of a new work by Donald Bird at **Jacob's Pillow**, June 23 & 24 only. Call 637-1322 for information.

Jacob's Pillow Opening Gala featuring the Mark Morris Dance Group and guest artists Yo-Yo Ma, Robert LaFosse, Margie Gillis, and host Carmen de Lavallade. The evening's events include outdoor performances, dinner, and a reception. Begins Saturday, June 25 at 6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by calling Kerrie Freisner at 637-1322.

Last season's stunning successful presentation of *The Gates* by the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company returns to **Jacob's Pillow** (637-1322) June 30 – July 2.

Contemplative Dance, an intensive workshop in movement as a creative, spiritual, and psychological practice, June 26 – July 1. With Daphne Lowell, Mary Ramsay, and Alton Wasson at Hampshire College. Limit 24. Call 268-3294 for information.

Contemplative Dance Workshop for Experienced Movers (see above listing), July 10 – 15. For those who have previously worked with this approach or with authentic movement. Call 268-3294 for further information.

Aerobic Line & Circle Dancing with Joan Anderson every Tuesday from 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. at The Barn Studio, 20 Dickinson Street in Amherst. Call 546-4554 for further information and listings of other classes.

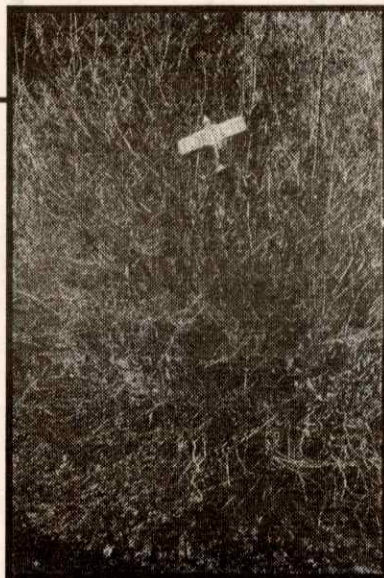
English County Dance the first and third Saturday of every month, 8 p.m. at the South Amherst Munson Library. For more information call 586-4385.

Improvisational Dance every Wednesday evening from 8:15 – 10:30 p.m. at East Street Studio, 47 East Street in Hadley. All levels are welcome. For further information call 256-8627 or 624-3709.

Scandinavian Dance the first and third Thursday of every month, 8 p.m. at the East Street Studio in Hadley. Call 586-4385 or 536-8760 for further information.

Beginning and Intermediate Yoga Classes at various times and locations. For more information call 586-3259.

Jazzercise classes at various times in Deerfield, Greenfield, and Sunderland for all levels of fitness. Call 665-7130 for more information.



Amherst International Folkdancing at the Bangs Community Center in Amherst from 8 – 10 p.m. every Friday night. Call Eva and Gene at 549-6748 or Cindy and Dennis at 256-0188.

Country Western Dancing at the North Star (586-9409) Mondays from 8 – 11 p.m.

Swing dancing at the North Star (586-9409) Wednesdays from 8 – 11 p.m.

Latin Dance Night returns to the North Star. Maria Gonzales teaches Salsa and Merengue the first and third Thursdays of each month from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m., and hosts the hottest Latin American music every Thursday night from 9:30 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.

Come learn the **Two Step with 'DOC' Haggerty**, along with other line and freestyle dances, at the Northeast American School of Dance in Northampton every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Call 584-8521 for more information.

The Barn Studio in Amherst offers a wide selection of ongoing dance classes for adults and children such as Jazz, Modern, Blues, Latin, African, Aerobics, and Yoga. Call 253-3008 for further information.

ISSUES/SPECIAL INTERESTS

Six safety brochures concerning child safety, the rise in rabies, elderly safety, and domestic abuse are being offered by the Cooley Dickinson Hospital (582-2255) of Northampton.

The Massachusetts **Alliance to Limit and Eliminate Radioactive Trash** holds ongoing meetings at the Black Sheep Deli in Amherst every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Call 585-9339.

State-Wide HIV Antibodies Counseling & Testing Hotline kicks off efforts: Massachusetts residents with questions about HIV antibodies are invited to address their questions to a new free hotline, administered by the Family Planning Council of Western Massachusetts. The hotline number is (800) 750-2016 and it will take calls 52 hours a week in both English and Spanish. TTY services for the hearing impaired will soon be activated.

The Franklin County Commission is updating its **Long Range Regional Transportation Plan**. The Plan looks at transportation needs for the region and identifies ways to meet those needs, examining public transportation and highway, bicycle, pedestrian, rail, and airport facilities.

The Draft Update will be available for public review and comment for a 30-day period beginning June 8 in the Franklin County Commission Office. Additional information and copies are available by calling 774-3167.

OPPORTUNITIES

Open Auditions for *To Kill a Mockingbird*, June 14, 15 & 17 from 7 – 10:30 p.m. at The Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm Street in West Springfield. The Theater Project, the Pioneer Valley's newest non-profit theater company, will run eleven performances in early November with rehearsals beginning in late August. The children's parts will be double cast. Interested actors should call Producing Director Danny Eaton at 567-3291 for an appointment time.

Conway School of Landscape Design Open House, a day-long introduction to the school and its philosophies of environmentally sensitive landscape design and land use planning, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advance registration required. Call 369-4044.

Song and Story Swap at the Bookmill in Montague, sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Folklore Society, June 27. Swap from 4 – 5:30 p.m., picnic from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. All ages invited to sing, tell stories, or just listen. Call Wayne Crouch at 467-7601 or PVFS at 367-0101 for info.

1994 Summer Art Workshops in Italy, June 30 – July 13 and July 15 – 30. Call 586-0708.

The **YMCA offers week-long sports camps** for soccer, basketball, t-ball and gymnastics. Age groups are 5 – 7 for half a day (9 a.m. – 1 p.m.) and 7 – 12 for full day (9 a.m. – 4 p.m.). First soccer session runs July 11 – 15. Call 584-7086 for more information.

Director of Clinical Services sought for The Children's Study Home, Western Massachusetts' oldest family and children's services agency. Applicants should possess LICSW, five years post-graduate direct practice experience in a social service field, and other qualifications. AA/EOE send resumes by July 15 to D. Bickham (HSF), Children's Study Home, 44 Sherman Street, Springfield, MA 01109.

Arizona Authors Association is holding its thirteenth annual literary contest. Both published and unpublished writers may compete for awards in essay, poetry, and short story categories. Entries must be previously unpublished and the winners will be published in the 1994 *Arizona Literary Magazine*. The contest opened January 1 and closes July 29, 1994. For contest rules and/or membership information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to AAA Literary Contest, 3509 E. Shea Blvd., Suite 117P, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3339.

Painting and art trip to New Mexico to be planned for August 20 – 27 by Professor Pat Conant of the Art Department at Westfield State College. Trip will allow participants to view, paint, and photograph beautiful scenic areas such as Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Taos. Artists and students of all levels welcome, and college credit is available through the Division of Continuing Education. For information and a brochure call Professor Conant at 572-5301 or 572-5630.

The Artists Market seeks interested artists. Applications are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Call The Amherst Area Chamber Of Commerce (253-0700) for further information.

The Springfield Library and Museums Association has announced that its four museums at the Quadrangle will be open Wednesdays this summer for the convenience of vacationers. Hours for the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, the Springfield Science Museum, the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, and the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts are Wednesday – Sunday, noon – 4 p.m. from June 29 – August 31. Call 739-3871, ext. 312 for additional information.

Summer Theater at Mount Holyoke College has announced its 1994 renewal campaign for past subscribers. To receive a subscription packet call 538-2632.

Carriage Ride & Dinner at the Deerfield Inn every Tuesday through Saturday beginning at 5:30 p.m. Includes ride in an antique carriage and candlelight dinner. Call the Inn at 774-5587.

The Bushnell is anxious to offer backstage tours before their hammer and nail project gets underway. Tours are conducted Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Call 527-3123 for more information.

Registration for plots at the Northampton Community Gardens can be obtained at the Recreation Department weekdays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Gardeners are urged to sign up early, as a waiting list is expected. For further information contact Sylvia Bonadio (584-8444) or Molly Yeaton (584-6317).

Garden Hotline will operate every Saturday morning through September from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (except May 21) at the Lyman Plant House of Smith College. The hotline number is 585-2748.

Historic Deerfield seeks rare and used books for its Gala Book Auction on Saturday, September 17. The auction committee is looking for railroad books; books on art, architecture, antiques and history; books on gardening, animals and sports; mysteries; and old, rare, and autographed books. Books can be dropped off at the Memorial Libraries on Memorial Street, just off Route 5 and 10 in Deerfield, or volunteers can come to collect them. For more information call Sharran Prouty or Anne Lanning at 774-5581.

The Amherst Chamber Of Commerce is looking for volunteers to help with the coordination of The Book and Plough Festival September 24 – 25. Call the Chamber Office (253-0700) for further information.

The Amherst Chamber Of Commerce is looking for prominent authors, illustrators, and vendors for September 24 – 25. Interested parties should call Dian Mandel at the Amherst Area Chamber Of Commerce (253-0700).

Cooley Dickinson Hospital is participating in a national campaign to increase donations of blood, thereby averting potentially severe blood shortages this summer. To schedule an appointment with the Cooley Dickinson Hospital Blood Bank, call 582-2162.

Holyoke Hospital is providing seniors with information and advocacy regarding medical insurance. Counselors will be on hand every other Monday. Call 534-2599 for further information.

Baseball Leagues in three age groups, Mickey Mantle 14 – 16, Babe Ruth/Connie Mack 16 – 18, and The College Division 22 and under, are looking for teams and players to fill out their 1994 schedule. Any teams or players interested should call Stan Gromacki Jr. at 734-7416, Ralph Naylor at 733-8321, Richard Solomon at 323-5171, or Mel Sasser at 532-7710.

Can you spend a few hours a week sharing the joys of summer with a lonely child? **The Companion Program**, a United Way Agency, has a waiting list of children who need the friendship and positive role model that an adult companion can provide. Please call the Resource Center at 253-2591.

Teenage Power Alliance is giving out grants to teens in Hampshire County to create tobacco education and prevention programs in their local communities. They are giving away a total of \$2,000, in mini grants no larger than \$500 each, to existing groups or to those newly forming. To receive applications or further information, contact Teenage Power Alliance, c/o Hampshire Youth 2000 Coalition, 99 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060, or call 584-0867.

Host family needed, preferably in the Amherst Regional School District, for a Croatian high school student in the upcoming 1994-95 school year. For more information call

continued on Page 24

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

256-6445.

Exchange Students Need Homes. Host families are being sought for 25 high school students from France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Denmark, and other foreign countries for the upcoming year in a program sponsored by the American International Youth Exchange Program. Call (415) 499-7669 for more information.

Host a Bosnian refugee for the second semester of this school year, a program by the Student Organization. Advocating Peace in Amherst. Call Jacqueline Possardt (256-6445) or Maria Roeper (256-0390).

Host a foreign high school exchange student for the 1994-95 school year. Call SHARE (800) 377-8462.

Northampton area host families needed for foreign teens: the students are all between the ages of 15 and 18, are English-speaking, have their own spending money, and carry accident and health insurance. For further information call (800) 631-1818.

The International Language Institute of Massachusetts, Inc. is looking for families in the Northampton area to host international students who are studying English at the school. For further information call 586-7569.

Interlochen Arts Camp Scholarships available for full tuition, room, and board at the eight-week summer program in northern Michigan. Students in grades 9-12 proficient on violin, viola, cello, bass, harp, and wind or percussion instruments are eligible. For information call (616) 276-7372.

Collegiate Athletic Scholarships available for male and female high school and junior college student athletes. No need for all-state status to apply. For information

send a #10 SASE to the National Sports Foundation, 611 A Willow Drive, P.O. Box 940, Oakhurst, NJ 07755. Apply now for the **Duracell/NSTA Scholarship Competition** for a number of awards totalling over \$90,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds for 9th-12th grade students. Call (703) 243-7100.

Apply now for the **Francis A. Kinnicutt Travel/Study Awards** for women only, designed to supplement the expenses of a foreign travel and art-related study undertaken for professional or personal growth. Offered by the Worcester Art Museum. Call Elizabeth Swinton (799-4406 ext. 226).

Student Loan Borrowers can reduce their overall borrowing costs and lower initial monthly payments through several new and enhanced repayment options offered by Sallie Mae. Call (800) 643-0040 for further information.

Call for Guitars! Donate to Amherst public school teachers for classroom use. Call the Staff Development Center at 549-3690, ext. 212.

Design the Signs in downtown Amherst if you are selected to participate in a day-long creative design process. For more information call Pam Korza at the Amherst Public Art Commission (545-2360).

Resident ensemble theater company forming for an ongoing serial produced by The Black Sheep Café in Amherst. Looking for people with experience in singing, dancing, improvisation, character development, and/or accents. Call Dian for audition information (256-3417).

Volunteer for the Resource/Referral Program at **Everywoman's Center** at UMass. Volunteers are needed to clip news articles from specific publications related to women's issues and multicultural concerns. Call 545-

0883.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society has several volunteer opportunities outdoors and in. Call Arcadia (584-3009) or Elizabeth French (584-7921).

Leverett Crafts and Arts Center is now considering applications for its artists-in-residence program. Studios are available to rent in a variety of sizes and configurations, suited to your particular needs. Call 584-9070.

The Berkshire Public Theater is looking for theater critics to be published in newspaper ads, posters, and/or other related promotional materials. The Press Card Membership costs \$25 and gives admission to shows at a discounted price. Call 445-4634.

Volunteers needed for the Northampton Visitors Center on King St. For more information, call Suzanne Beck at the Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce (584-1900).

Volunteer for various positions at the **Children's Museum in Holyoke**. Call 586-7048.

Volunteer evenings or on special projects with staff and guests of Northampton's shelter for homeless adults. For more information call Priscilla Drucker at 586-6001 or 584-7329.

Open Stage at the Iron Horse welcomes performers just starting out or wanting to introduce new material. Sign-up begins at 6:30, and stage performances begin at 7 p.m. at the Iron Horse Music Hall, 20 Center Street in Northampton (367-0101).

International Language Institute is looking for volunteers for its English as a second language program. A six-month commitment is required. For more information call 586-7569.

Plowshares Families on Board is looking for volun-

teers to build homes. For more information call Chris Doughty (773-3554) or Robert Hurwitz (773-7584).

Self Help Housing Program: 20 families working in two groups for two years will construct their own homes so that their final monthly costs will be less than \$400. The Valley CDC is now accepting applications to start construction in the fall. Contact Karen Andrade, the Self Help Housing Group Coordinator of the Valley CDC, at 586-5855.

Arise, a low-income-rights organization, is seeking donations of books, magazines, and sewing and craft materials for its new project at the Self-Reliance Center in Springfield. Call Martha Burnett at 736-1211 for more information.

Beer drinkers unite in new consumer union! Alan Eames, renowned brewing historian and author, invites all interested beer drinkers who would like a say in what they would like in beer and what they think is right and wrong in the beer industry to join the Beer Drinkers Union. All those interested can send a postcard or note with their names, addresses, and pet peeves with the beer industry to Beer Drinkers Union USA, 75 Pine Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301, or fax to (617) 742-6509.

Bucks For Brandy: a baby bear cub was found and donations are needed to keep it alive at the Zoo in Forest Park. Send donations to the Forest Park Zoological Society, Attention: Brandy the Bear, P.O. Box 80295, Springfield, MA 01138.

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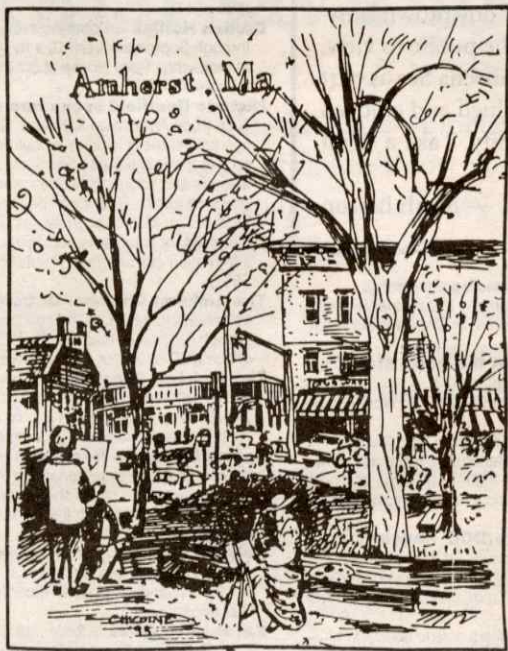
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What Angels Say

In her new book, Susan Douglas characterizes the mass media as a bag of mixed messages and mixed blessings

by Michael Strohl

Where the Girls Are: Growing Up Female with the Mass Media

by Susan J. Douglas

Random House, 340 pp

\$23

In the sixties, teen rebellion belonged to the living room. No doubt, to those of us who came of age in the bedrooms and basements of later decades, such a thought seems odd. After all, the living room was a place where families gathered to watch sitcoms transform the pattern of their own dull lives into something wacky, vibrant, and resolvable. This was adult turf.

But imagine being young and female at this time, your private world inextricably linked with the public sphere, and it's a different matter. Caught somewhere between the atom bomb and the electronic age, you search for ways to understand this brave new world and your place in it. Borrowing equal parts from *The Catcher in the Rye*, *On the Road*, The Beatles, Joan Baez, and *Bewitched*, you piece together a way to make sense of all the contradictions of your own life and the ones you see on TV. Watching television had never before seemed so urgent,

engaged, or political. Suddenly, you had transformed it into a revolutionary act.

Such is the experience described by *Progressive* media critic and Hampshire College professor Susan Douglas in her most recent work, *Where the Girls Are: Growing Up Female with the Mass Media*. Part scholarly piece of cultural criticism, part personal memoir, *Where the Girls Are* begins with the premise that while the mass media represent a fundamental building block of youth, offering private haven to

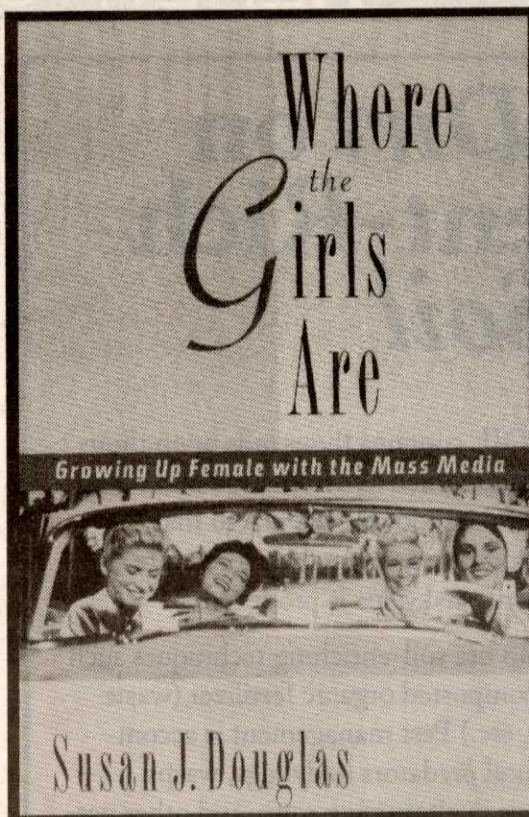
our deepest imaginings, these media also possess a deeply schizophrenic value system, inclined to portray only a small fraction of female experience. For Douglas, this stems, of course, from the media's role as primary reinforcer of the market system: "America's consumer culture was predicated on the notion that women were the major consumers of most goods — that was

their job, after all — and that, to sell them, you had to emphasize their roles as wives and mothers, because it was in these capacities, not in their capacities as secretaries or nurses, that women bought... Here she was, part of a system that insisted it needed her to consume inside the home but adamantly refused to admit it also needed her to produce outside the home."

As images of "what a woman should be" proliferated throughout the early stages of the electronic revolution, women were beginning to stage a quiet revolution of their own. Nowhere is

Douglas more passionate about this than in her description of her mother's clash with the mass media: "I watched her buy into some of the media norms about ideal womanhood, and I watched her defy and lash out at others, for she was pulled in one direction by imagery and in another by economics, and pulled in both by desire and longing." Out of this daily tug-of-war between contradictory values, Douglas claims that women began to "cobble together some compromise they could live with."

"It was watching [Charlie's Angels] — women working together to solve a problem and capture, and sometimes kill, really awful, sadistic men, while having great hairdos and clothes — that engaged our desire."



for the brain dead and the politically bankrupt. Being, in 1979, both a freshly minted PhD and a new wife, I had to use the show as a constant affirmation of my own cultural superiority. Who was I kidding, besides myself?"

Douglas' choice to write from a semi-autobiographical perspective is appropriate, it seems to me, given her subject matter. While contemporary theory often employs a detached deconstructive method to get at such fundamental feminist tenets as "the personal is political," Douglas peppers her criticisms with personal recollections, anecdotes, and reflections, attempting to reclaim that space as her own. This is especially effective in the chapter entitled "Why the Shirelles Mattered," in which Douglas revisits her own sexually-charged adolescence to find music to be her most indispensable source of solace, and means of escape: "The most

Douglas' theories play nicely into the postmodern notion of self as fractured entity, composed of socially constructed attitudes. However, she never gets caught up in the poststructuralist trappings which might accompany such a reading. Never academic, her prose is often playful, no doubt reflecting her own attitudes toward her subject. Unlike her fellow feminist theorists, Douglas expresses a healthy mixture of both attraction and repulsion to pop culture, taking it to task for its pervasive misogyny, but also paying homage to its pleasure- and meaning-giving qualities. This is summed up beautifully, I think, in a passage about the 1970s prime time female cop drama *Charlie's Angels*: "It was watching this — women working together to solve a problem and capture, and sometimes kill, really awful, sadistic men, while having great hairdos and clothes — that engaged our desire." Later, in a discussion of early '80s family melodramas like *Dallas* and *Dynasty*, Douglas claims, somewhat self-deprecatingly, "These viewing strategies, the laughter especially, allowed me to pretend I was impervious to the pull of *Dallas* and gave me permission to indulge in this hedonistic, completely unredeeming pastime seemingly designed

important thing about this music, the reason it spoke to us so powerfully, was that it gave voice to all the warring selves inside us struggling, blindly and with a crushing sense of insecurity, to forge something resembling a coherent identity."

In the end, while Douglas feels that there is hope for the future of feminism, embodied in such public figures as Roseanne Arnold, Madonna, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, she cannot help but see the mass media for what it is: a bundle of contradictions. I, for one, would have liked to see more than two paragraphs on the Hill-Thomas trials, and maybe a mention of Lani Guinier (too recent?), as they pronounce these contradictions perhaps as loud as they've ever been. Ultimately, though, *Where the Girls Are* serves its purpose, namely, providing a forum for Douglas to piece together a coherent identity out of fragments from her past; if her subject (herself, in this case) is, finally, left unresolved, it's only because life, unlike a sitcom, doesn't have a neat solution.

Susan J. Douglas will read from her book, *Where the Girls Are: Growing Up Female with the Mass Media*, at the Jeffery Amherst Bookshop in Amherst on Saturday, June 25 at 1 p.m. ★

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Recipe #5 Strawberry Shortcake

Biscuits:

- 2 cups whole wheat pastry flour
- 1 Tbsp. Sucanat
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/8 tsp. nutmeg, freshly grated if possible
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. grated orange rind
- 3 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt, dairy milk or soy milk
- 2 Tbsp. fresh orange juice
- 2 Tbsp. water

Strawberry Topping:

- 1 quart fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 3 kiwi fruit, peeled, halved and sliced
- Juice and rind of one orange
- 1 Tbsp. maple syrup or honey
- Pinch of salt

1. Preheat oven to 450. Oil a cookie sheet or line it with parchment paper.
2. In a medium sized bowl, combine flour, Sucanat, soda, nutmeg, salt and orange rind. Cut in butter with a pastry blender until the butter is the size of small peas.
3. In a small bowl, combine wet ingredients. Pour into dry ingredients, mixing with a fork. Add more water if dough is too dry and doesn't hold together.
4. Turn mixture onto a lightly floured board. Knead gently 4-5 times to form ball. Roll out 1/4 inch thick. Cut rounds with 3-inch cutter or glass. Place on prepared cookie sheet and bake for 8 to 10 minutes until golden brown. Remove from oven and allow to cool on rack.
5. 30 minutes before serving, place fruit, juice and sweetener in a medium bowl. Stir gently and set aside.
6. To serve the shortcake, place one biscuit round on a plate, top with 2 tablespoons strawberry mixture and a dollop of whipped cream or yogurt. Repeat.

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Nutritional information based on one cup of strawberries

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Sunscreen May Not Protect You

“Australian Study Proves that Sunscreen Can Help Protect Against Skin Cancer,” read October's headlines. Three months later, “Study Questions the Effectiveness of Sunscreens Against Melanomas,” were the new headlines. How could both studies be valid?

The Australian study, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, found that people who used a sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of 17 for seven months significantly reduced the risk of actinic keratoses. These lesions, which result from overexposure to the sun, are precursors of squamous cell carcinoma and also a risk factor for basal cell carcinoma, the two most common forms of skin cancer. This study was greeted as the first statistical proof that people who regularly use sunscreen do lower their risk of skin cancer later in life.

The second study, in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in January, was more surprising. It looked at another skin cancer — the most serious form, malignant melanoma. Researchers from the University of Texas applied three common types of sunscreen to mice and then exposed most of them to sunlamps twice a week for three weeks; melanoma cells were then injected into all the mice. The mice exposed to the ultraviolet (UV) rays, even if they were treated with sunscreen, had a higher incidence of melanoma than those not exposed to UV rays. All three sunscreens protected against inflammation (an early

DON'T THROW AWAY THE SUNSCREEN

This study, though important, is far from conclusive. What happens in mice may not happen in humans. Moreover, the melanoma cells were injected. And sunlamps produce a different range of UV rays than the sun, which may also skew the results. Finally, the sunscreens used were relatively weak (SPF 4 to 8); stronger products may be more protective.

Surprisingly little is known about what causes melanoma. While it is clear that the risk of other types of skin cancer rises in proportion to the cumulative amount of time people have spent in the sun, the sun's role in the development of melanoma is less clear. People who spend lots of time in the sun (such as farmers) do not have elevated rates of melanoma, though they do have higher rates of squamous and basal cell carcinoma. And melanoma sometimes turns up on parts of the body rarely exposed to the sun (such as the buttocks and soles). Some researchers believe that intermittent sun exposure and severe, blistering sunburns, especially early in life, rather than simply years of sun exposure, cause melanoma. However, studies have been inconsistent about the role of sunburn, and the new study seems to disprove this theory, since the mice weren't sunburned.

Another theory: while ultraviolet-B (UVB) rays are mainly responsible for sunburn and the less deadly skin cancers, the longer-wavelength ultraviolet-A (UVA) rays may be more important in the development of melanoma. Most active ingredients in

Many scientists attribute some of the increase in skin cancers to the gradual destruction of the Earth's ozone layer.

sign of a sunburn), however. The researchers theorized that the sunscreens may allow enough UV to penetrate the skin to suppress the immune response and/or damage DNA, thus allowing tumors to develop.

These results were unnerving because melanoma is so dangerous (though early treatment can cure it) and because its incidence has been rising steadily in recent decades. In 1935, before the tanning craze began, only one person in 1,500 was diagnosed with melanoma. The lifetime risk is now about 1 in 105 — and it may be 1 in 75 by the year 2000. Since 1973, the incidence has risen about 4% a year, even as the use of sunscreen has increased. Many scientists attribute some of the increase in skin cancers to the gradual destruction of the Earth's ozone layer, which is allowing more ultraviolet radiation to reach the earth's surface.

But the Texas researchers suggested that, ironically, sunscreens may be partly responsible for the rising rate of melanoma, since they allow people — especially fair-skinned ones — to stay in the sun longer before burning and give sunbathers a false sense of security. Some studies have indeed found that men who regularly use sunscreen have a higher risk of melanoma.

sunscreens absorb UVB rays, but let through all or most of the UVA rays, which researchers once thought would let you tan without harm. Now it appears that UVA not only can damage the skin's connective tissue, leading to premature aging, but also plays a role in causing skin cancer, particularly melanoma. The sunscreens used in the new mouse study blocked little or no UVA.

WHO'S AT RISK

People at highest risk for melanoma are the fair-skinned — notably people with red or blond hair, those who freckle (especially on the upper back), and/or those who have rough red patches on their skin (actinic keratoses) as a result of sunning. If you have a family history of melanoma, have had blistering sunburns as a child or teenager, or have atypical moles, that also increases your risk.

Even if it is confirmed that sunscreens don't protect against melanoma, they do protect against other types of skin cancer, which are more common, as well as against sunburn and wrinkling. But the best safeguard is to limit your time in the sun.

SUN SMART

• Avoid long sun exposure, even if you are wearing a sunscreen. Minimize sun expo-

continued on page 30

Emotional Fitness

by Tom Raymond MSW

Dear Tom,

My partner is extremely possessive of me, and the time we spend together seems to make or break his happiness. However, he has extreme difficulty telling me what he needs from me. How can we make our relationship work?

—Alice in Chains

When all else fails, I suggest that partners try something different and take each other at their word. In this case, it would mean the following: what he "needs" is to have you around. For some people, simply being in the presence of a loved one is enough. If you press him to tell you what he wants from you once you're with him, he may not be able to come up with anything because he's already got what he wants.

If this is the case, it does not mean that you must tie yourself to him with a five-foot stretch of rope. You owe it to both of you to tell him what is comfortable for you as well. Then you can begin the negotiations that are the hallmark of all intimate relationships and see what kind of compromises you can come up with.

Usually, possessive partners are people who have not had very good experiences with coordinating the comings and goings of their significant others. He may feel reassured if you can let him know where you are and when you'll be back. If you're willing to stop interpreting his desire to be with you as pathology, he may be willing to develop a more flexible way of keeping in touch that meets both of your needs.

Once again, it is important to remember that we are all products of our biographies. Our needs and our ability to meet these needs is not something we can alter at a moment's notice. Just because our biography may have left us helpless in the kitchen does not mean that we wouldn't love to be able to please our partner by cooking the occasional meal. However, before that can happen, various competences will have to be acquired. The absence of competence does not indicate an absence of caring.

If your partner is not satisfied with simply having you near but can't seem to put his finger on what would make him happy, then you've got a different problem. Back to biographies. Many people do not know and/or can not articulate what they want because they have grown up in families where no one ever asked.

If no one asks, or asks but doesn't seem

to pay attention to your answer, then you quickly stop trying to figure it all out. Children who have grown up in environments like this become adults who say things like, "sure, whatever you want" when asked whether or not they want to go out for pizza. They are either unable to assert their desire for sweet and sour shrimp or they truly do not know what would satisfy their hunger. If you're lucky enough to have learned these things, it may be difficult to imagine someone being limited in this way. When you possess a particular competence, it begins to feel "natural."

The problem of not knowing what you want is more complicated, and can have serious consequences for your relationship. If your partner knows what he wants, a compromise can be negotiated. If, on the other hand, he is not sure what he wants or how to say it, it will take a lot of patience on your part and effort on his to get the ball rolling. In addition, there is always the risk that he will want something that you're not expecting.

If you get stuck, a good couples therapist can help you continue to sort things out. If you'd rather go at it alone, then start by assuming that your partner is no more neurotic than the next guy and that he's simply doing what you're doing—trying to figure out what he wants and how to make it happen.

Dear Tom,
Do you believe in Freud's theory that all human beings are inherently bisexual?

—Freudian Slip

I believe that one's sexuality emerges from the interaction between physiology and biography. (The most recent research indicates that even experiences after birth can influence the structure of the developing brain.) However, with only 20 percent or so of the data in, any grand theory is bound to have a few grand holes as well.

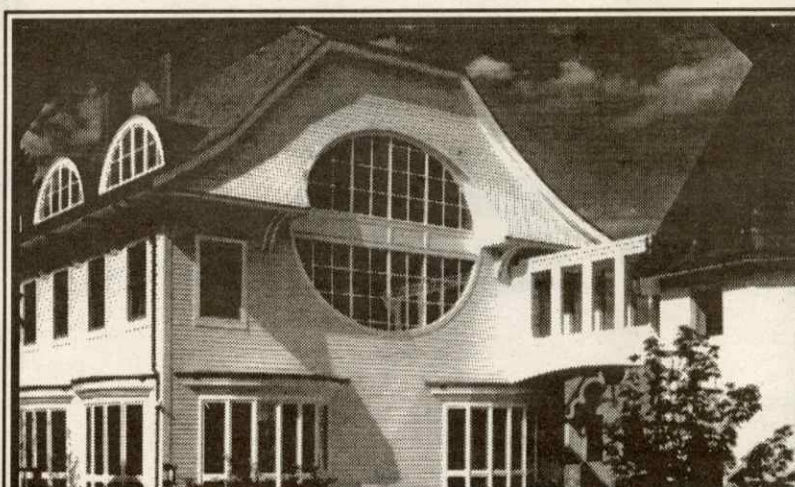
There are several related questions that I can respond to more directly. 1. Do most people have sexual feelings for both genders? Yes. 2. Do most people have equally strong feelings for both genders? No. 3. Are there any advantages to being bisexual? Well, as Woody Allen used to say, "It makes it a lot easier to come up with a date on Friday night!"

Tom Raymond is a psychotherapist with a private practice in Northfield, Massachusetts. Direct your questions to: Emotional Fitness, Optimist Publications, 13 Old South Street, Northampton, MA 01060. ★

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see Page 35

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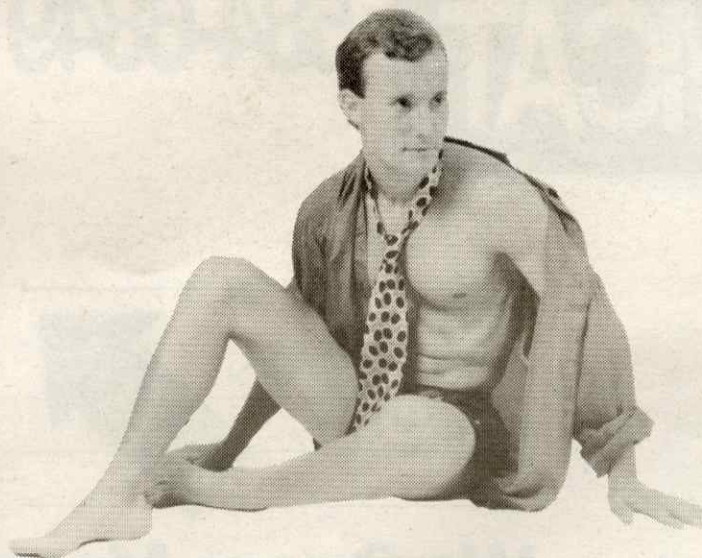


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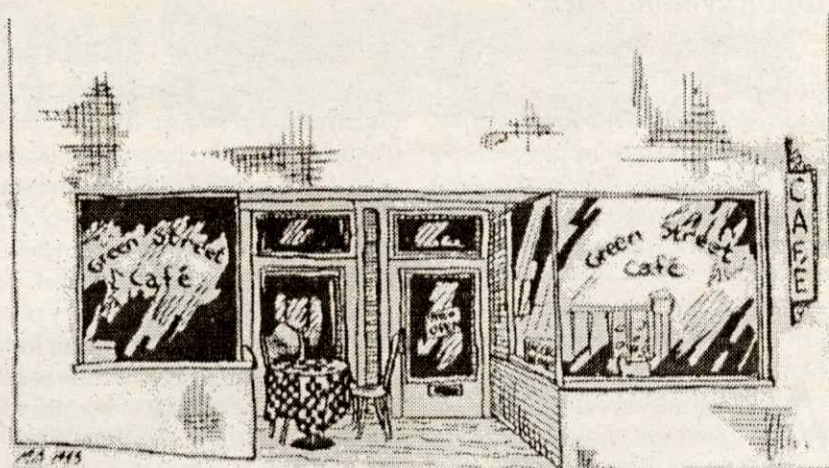
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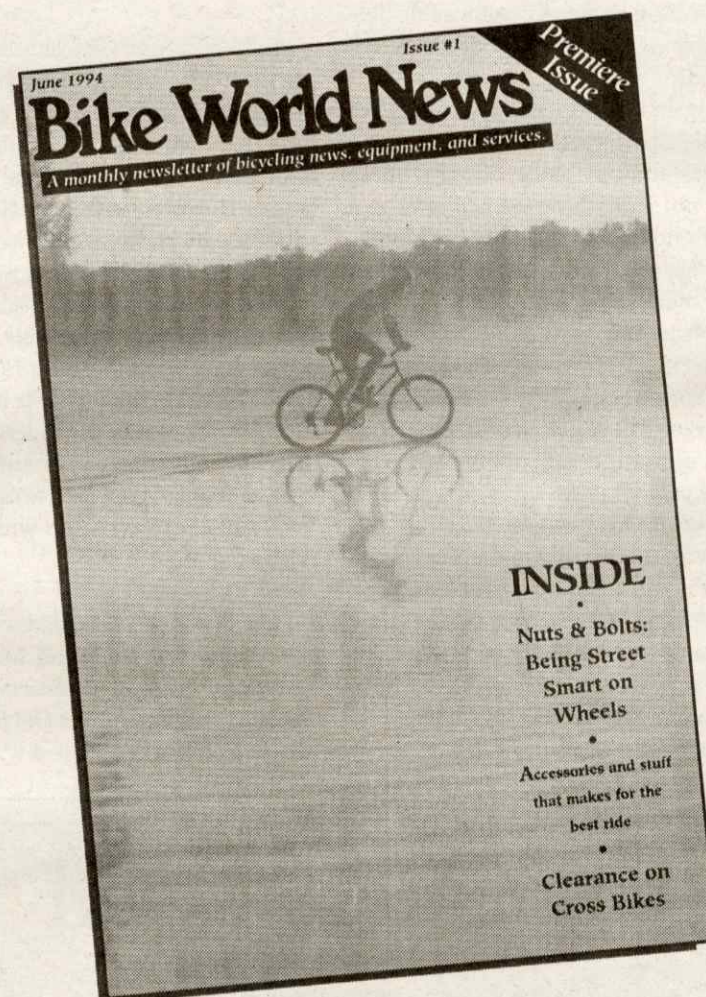
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by Chuck Shepherd

LEAD STORIES

Two Serbian designers announced in Belgrade in May that they would soon begin manufacturing cologne called "Serb," in a canister that resembles a hand grenade. In a press release, the two said, "We don't have to be ashamed, because everything vile has already been blamed on the Serbs."

The *Boston Globe* reported in February that Eulalia Rodriguez and her extended family receive government assistance payments totaling nearly \$1 million a year. Rodriguez, who has been on public assistance for 26 years, has 14 children on welfare, 74 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. Said she, "I'm sick of people acting like I'm some crook. We've got a lot of kids to feed." Rodriguez lives in a six-bedroom, three-story apartment in a gated Boston community called Harbor Point.

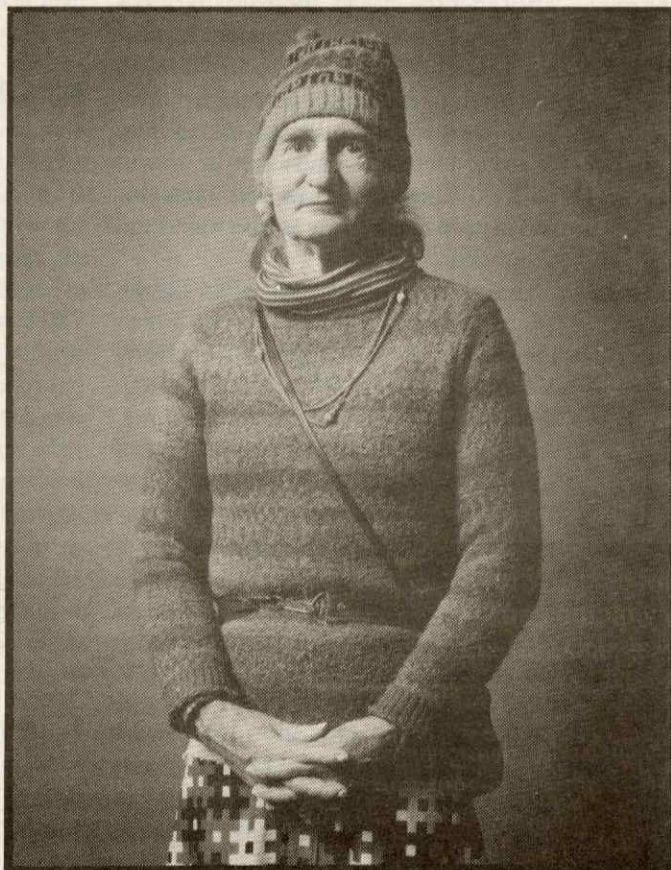
GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

In March the Providence *Journal-Bulletin* reported that the Internal Revenue Service office in Rhode Island was specializing in pursuing tax underpayments by pizza parlors. The office calculated a standard amount of flour in a pizza, divided that by the total flour the restaurant purchased, found the number of pizzas made, and then determined the likely income of the store, which was often more than what the store reported.

Reading, Pa., Fire Department official Michael J. Moyer was suspended for a day on Oct. 12 for having violated a directive not to drive his department car in the town's Labor Day parade. Moyer was thus not paid for his regular 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. shift, but the person called in to replace him, at overtime pay, had to vacate his own subsequent shift and, according to regulations, the person who had to fill that later shift, also at overtime pay, was Michael J. Moyer, who thus earned \$313 instead of the \$155 he would have made had he not been suspended.

On March 8, the New York City Division

of School Facilities finally attached doors to the stalls in the girls' restroom at Public School 206 in Brooklyn, following years of complaining by the principal. The doors



Eddie Gay (1924-1994) — Gag writer, songwriter, cross-dresser: as "weird" as he wanted to be. RIP.

photo art by Tobey

were requisitioned on May 25, 1989 — 1,747 days earlier.

Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review of federal government practices revealed recently that the Pentagon spends \$4.3 billion a year on travel — \$2 billion for the travel itself and \$2.3 billion to process the paperwork.

In April, a Senate subcommittee found that the number of drug and alcohol addicts who had signed up for benefits under the Supplemental Security Income program for the "disabled" had tripled in three years, in large part because the government does not verify whether the benefits are spent on addiction counseling or merely to buy more drugs. A quarter of a million addicts receive \$1.4 billion a year under the program. In

Cleveland, Ohio, sheriff's deputies disclosed in January that 91 of the 330 fugitives rounded up during stings in 1993 were on welfare — receiving an average of \$330 a month. Regulations prohibit cross-checking fugitives' records with welfare records.

Among the projects cited in an April *Denver Post* article on the 10 "worst ideas in modern U.S. environmental history": a plan by a Department of the Interior official in the 1960s to flood the Grand Canyon for a hydroelectric plant; a plan by then-Atomic Energy Commission chairman James Schlesinger to dispose of nuclear waste by shooting it into the sun on a space shuttle; and the World Health Organization's 1960s program to kill mosquitos on Borneo with U.S.-made DDT, which so disrupted the food chain that the island was soon overrun with rats, until the U.S. parachuted in cats to control them.

At a Jacksonville, Fla., City Council discussion of new park sites recently, a councilman told a councilwoman that she could "kiss my posterior," and she responded by threatening to "beat the hell" out of him.

OOPS!

In April in Easthampton, Mass., a four-foot-long iguana

got free from its cage in a car being driven by Joann Colby, causing her to lose control and allow the car to fall down a 25-foot embankment. She and the iguana received only two minor injuries. In nearby Northampton, Mass., the next week, another iguana left its terrarium on a jaunt through Sheri A. Dilks' apartment, and en route accidentally triggered an alarm that brought firefighters.

On April 30, a driver, unidentified by police, was found in his car at the end of Interstate 8 in San Diego with a map in his hand and a "perplexed look" on his face, according to a California Highway Patrol spokesman. He explained that he had come from New Mexico and was looking for Arizona.

In January, gun safety instructor Ronald Paolillo, 43, and his 13-year-old son were injured by fragments of a 9 mm bullet just before a class at the Branford, Conn., Gun Club. Paolillo was headed for the firing range when the bottom fell out of a box of ammunition, and as the bullets hit the floor, one exploded.

In September, at a dress rehearsal in a Swansea, Wales, theater, actress June Slavin of the English Shakespeare Company rushed along the balcony where she was to deliver the "wherefore art thou, Romeo" line, tripped, and toppled over the railing, falling 10 feet and spraining her wrist.

THE WEIRDO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

In March, a manager at a Kroger store in Columbus, Ohio, apprehended a suspected shoplifter, who was charged with grand theft. Concealed in his clothing were over \$300 worth of vaginal products, including 18 tubes of cream made by three different companies and five packs of Monistat suppositories.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINAL

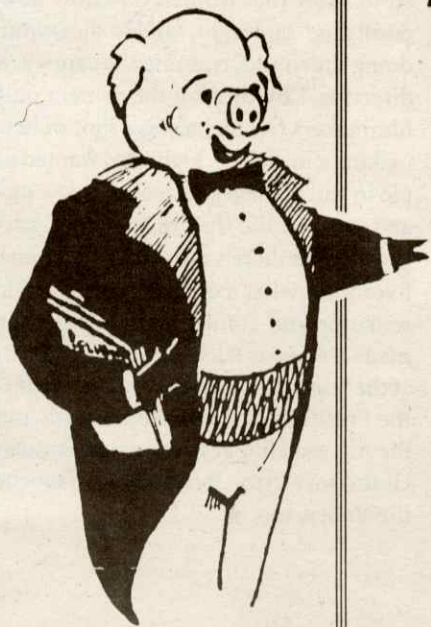
Michael Antonio Davis, 24, was arrested in Savannah, Ga., in April while inside a squad car parked in front of the Precinct 1 station house. According to an officer, who discovered the suspect sitting in the back of the car with a "most disgusted look" on his face, Davis had entered the car looking for guns but did not realize that police cars' back doors automatically lock, from inside and out, when closed.

POLICE BLOTTER

In April, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation used laser light technology to identify the prime suspect in a hit-and-run injury in rural Johnson County. Although witnesses said only that the hit-and-run vehicle was a black hatchback, bureau investigators found that the collision was so hard that the first two numbers of the license plate and the month of expiration were imprinted on the victim's pants, and the only black hatchback with those numbers belonged to a 51-year-old man, who was arrested.

In February, William James Silva, 44, was

continued on page 30



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WELLNESS LETTER

continued from page 26

sure between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when the sun is the strongest. Avoid sunburn like poison.

- When you're outdoors, wear protective clothing and a hat with a wide brim. A beach umbrella is worth the money.

- When you're in sunlight for more than a few minutes, protect exposed skin by applying a waterproof sunscreen with a sunscreen protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher.

- Chose a product that protects against both UVA and UVB radiation. Most screens protect primarily against UVB rays (the SPF rating pertains only to UVB). The compound avobenzone offers the fullest protection against UVA rays. So far, the FDA has approved only two products that contain it. One is Photoplex, the other is Shade UVAGUARD. Both protect against UVB as well as UVA, and both have an SPF of 15. Other sunscreens that are labeled "broad-spectrum" are less protective. They contain oxybenzone or some other ingredient that blocks only a portion of the UVA spectrum.

- Put sunscreen on half an hour before you go out. If you're perspiring or swimming, apply it frequently and generously.

- Protect your lips, nose, and other sensitive areas with an opaque sun block, such as one containing zinc oxide, which blocks both UVA and UVB.

- Keep babies and toddlers in the shade as much as you can.

- Teenagers may be reluctant to listen, but keep preaching about the dangers of suntanning and especially sunburns.

- Never use a sunlamp or tanning parlor.

- Examine your skin on a regular basis. Any mole that changes shape, color, or size, any sore that doesn't heal, or any persistent patch of irritated skin or small growth may be a sign of cancer and needs professional evaluation. ★

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

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arrested in San Jose, Calif., when he allegedly robbed a police decoy posing as a street-corner drunk. It was the 550th time Silva has been arrested, and his record reaches 127 feet of computer paper. (According to police, before robbing the decoy, Silva had argued with a friend about whether the man was a police officer, with Silva insisting that he wasn't.)

Assault and indecent exposure charges were filed against Shakespearean actress Barbara Kinghorn in St. Joseph, Mo., in April after she, naked, allegedly attacked a 52-year-old woman on the indoor track at Northwest Missouri State University. Kinghorn had allegedly first thrown herself at the woman's husband, asking him, "Can I give it to you?" and when the woman objected, Kinghorn attacked her. Kinghorn was in town to play Lady Macbeth in a local production.

In February, customs officials in Taiwan seized 11 tons of chicken testicles, which they said had been smuggled in from Hong Kong. The Chinese delicacy, said to be an aphrodisiac, was disguised as frozen shrimp.

According to a police affidavit (uncovered by *The Oregonian*) in support of two prostitution arrests in Portland, Ore., last summer, a confidential informant was given enough police department money that he was able to procure masturbation services six times from the A-1 Massage Studio, which was operated by two sisters, ages 73 and 70.

In Enumclaw, Wash., in November, a woman summoned police to her home when she thought she had found a mysterious supply of drugs, but police discovered the substance to be caulking material. And in Oakland, Calif., Louis C. Clark filed a lawsuit against the city in December for their roughhouse behavior in arresting Clark for possessing cocaine, which turned out to be only his denture adhesive.

SCHEMES

Last July, Hidekazu Watanabe, 36, was arrested in Kawasaki, Japan, by a store security guard as he was attempting to shoplift a handbag and 16 other items. A search of his home turned up about 1,700 more stolen items, and according to a police officer, Watanabe said he had hoped to steal enough goods to open a discount shop.

In October in Orlando, Fla., James Zimmerman, 39, was charged with grand

theft of gasoline. According to police, Zimmerman used a specially equipped van with a hose that could suck up gasoline from service-station storage tanks into containers in his van. He would then empty the gasoline into a 600-gallon drum in his back yard, then sell it from his front yard at about 80 cents a gallon.

Malaysia's *New Straits Times* reported in February that a man in Perak, Malaysia, was arrested after several incidents in which he climbed on roofs at night, and, using a fishing line and hook, lifted the sarongs of sleeping women to look at their bodies.

MOST DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY

In January, Colin Wood, who has spent 17 of his 35 years behind bars, escaped from prison in Guelph, Ontario. Colin, his twin brother Douglas, brothers David, 40, and Philip, 37, and the wife of another brother have between them more than 140 criminal convictions. Yet another brother had a lengthy criminal record, but has recently gone straight. When Douglas was deported to England in 1985, he had to be flown on a military airplane because commercial airlines would not take anyone so violent. The other brothers will be deported also, at the end of their prison sentences. At Douglas' deportation hearing, their mother, Patricia Wood, described her sons as "a family of young gentlemen."

LEAST COMPETENT PERSON

Fort Worth, Texas, police arrested Philip G. Rojo, 24, in April after they had stopped his car at a roadblock because he was not wearing a seat belt. The police said they began backing away from the car when they spied three silver pipelike packages on the floor, telling Rojo they feared the packages were a pipe bomb. Reportedly, Rojo tried to reassure the police and blurted out, "Man, that ain't no pipe bomb. That's cocaine." ★

— Universal Press Syndicate

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St Petersburg, Fla. 33738, or cshepherd@igc.apc.org.)

(Chuck Shepherd's new paperback book, *America's Least Competent Criminals* (HarperPerennial), is available at most bookstores.)

MOVIES

continued from page 19

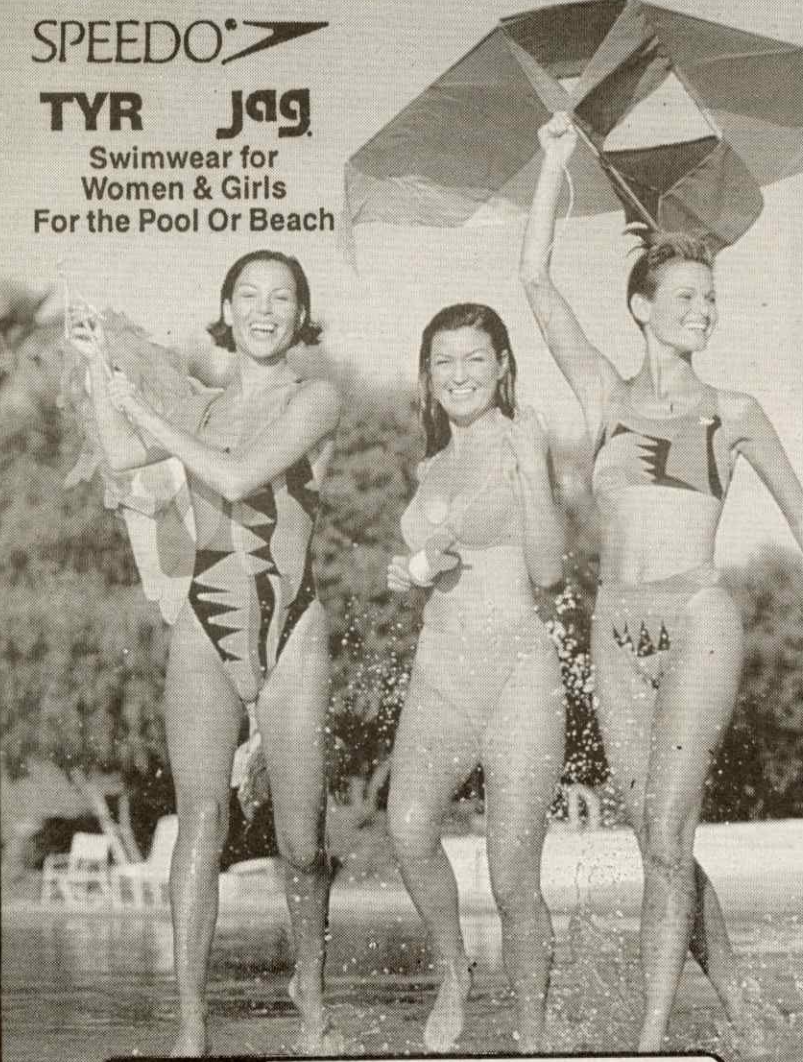
a little worried that people are going to see the film and think that being a radical makes you sick!"


On the other hand, *Dialogues* amply illustrates that mainstream therapy, which relied heavily on drugs and often irresponsible psychiatrists, was often worse than the illness itself. "Feminism is what saved me," admits Light. "I'm not the same person I was in 1963." She notes that while she never found a therapist she could really work with, several of the women do speak eloquently about happening onto the right therapist. "Some people have said the film is down on therapists, but it's actually really balanced," says Light. "That people find the right therapist through luck is really the way it works."

The film's closing scene tracks one woman, DeeDee, as she walks into the

ocean, suitcase in hand, in order "to find Sappho," and the camera pulls back to show the film's all-woman crew at work. "I wanted to show that women do know how to do all this," said Light, "and to show women doing the sound, running the camera, and directing." By turning the camera on the filmmakers (an including a shot of herself making a mistake!), Light also wanted people in the audience to realize it is a movie and not real life they're watching, and to respect that there's more to these women's lives than what's on the film. The film's welcome and compassionate perspective made *Dialogues with Madwomen* a favorite at the Sundance Film Festival, where it won the Freedom of Expression award, and at the Atlanta Film Festival, where it won the Grand Jury Prize. It should be a favorite in the Valley, too. ★

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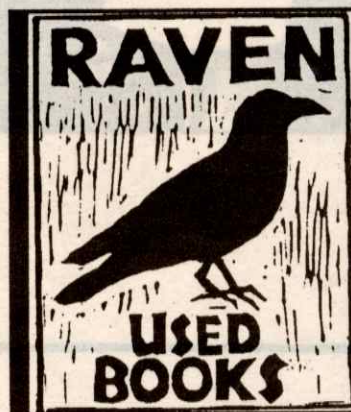
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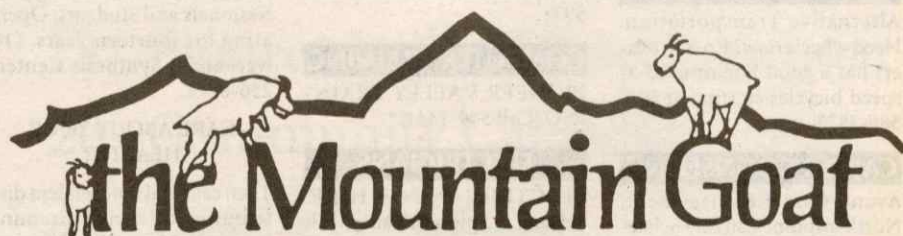
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Single mother late 40's, honest, maybe a bit too independent, old hippie, good sense of humor, many many interests, little time seeks male counterpart. Box 1028 20

HOME LOVING
SWF, slim, 40's, with grown children, quiet personality. I enjoy walking, dancing and travel. I'm home loving and enjoy the simple things in life. Seeking S/DWM. Box 1016 16

EARLY MORNING WARNING
Woman, 39, small and strong, witty, somewhat pretty. At one, happy and interested in sharing. Care to walk my dogs with me? Box 1004 14

CONFIDE AND SEEK
SWF, 43, 5'8", witty, attractive, professional, independent but affectionate, seeks S/DWM, taller, who's humorous, intelligent, honest, active and emotionally available, for potential friend or partner. Box 1000 14

RADIANT SPIRIT DWF, young looking 42, enjoy meeting and sharing with others. Interests include metaphysics, gardening, dance and more. N/S, Valley area. Box 1001

OTHER HALF...
SWF, 32, ENFJ, looking for true

RADIANT SPIRIT DWF, young looking 42, enjoy meeting and sharing with others. Interests include metaphysics, gardening, dance and more. N/S, Valley area. Box 1001

mate, healthy, funny, eclectic, confident, creative, real. I'm happy with life, want deeper dimension, match of wits, connection of love, strong attraction, sense of lightness. What charms you? Box 1011 14

AS YOU WISH SWF, 21, long brown hair, blue eyes, loves flow-ers, cats, classical music, seeking old-fashioned, respectable male, 21-29, for a Princess Bride romance. Box 1012

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

PROZAC'S NOT WORKING
Something profound is missing. DWM, a young and nice looking 42, feminist, friendly, zen-gen-uine. Let's be in love and off to the Keys! Box 1059 22

SINGLE DIVORCED WHITE MALE
47, at peace with myself, seeks self-assured, vibrant woman, 42-48, to share all the joys and woes of life. Quirkiness helps. Box 1073 22

POWERFUL MAN 20
Single father, enjoys walking in the woods, dancing, movies, sunrises and sunsets. Seeks woman, 30-40, who knows how to love a man and be a woman. Box 1051

LOST IN LOVELESSNESS 20
10 years here. No dates! SWM, 39, admirable qualities. Renaissance Falstaffian, rabelaisian, good hearted, soul of the universe. Alas, no love! Box 1053

BATTLING INNER DEMONS
Seeking freedom, truth, but couple x/wk. I, SWM, just wanna be

your boyfriend (to intelligent, creative, sincere, unusual, tender female) enjoy cooking, music, arts. Box 1052 20

IDEALISTIC PRAGMATIST
SWM, 32, 5'9", strong, dynamic, well educated, athletic, creative, cynical, craftsman, musician, cyclist, seeks similarly unconventional SF who is academic, artistic, athletic, ambitious. No kids or tobacco. Box 1054 20

RED BIRD SINGS
Spring and the sensuous fire lifts the song into the thermals for lovers. Handsome, earthy male, 40 years old, seeking flighty, passionate female. Box 1057 20

GOALS & DIRECTION
Seeking SF with above. SWM, 29, 5'7", brn/brn, new to area, enjoy art house movies, reading, work outs, jazz to Breeders. Seeks N/S, off-beat braniac for friendship possible relationship. Box 1058 20

SEARCHING FOR ROMANCE
DWM, 37, single parent, will build love life, championship romance, wishing wells and laughter seeks a warm, honest, down to earth lady to laugh with. Box 1032 20

A LOT TO OFFER 18
A nice, attractive, DWM, 43, 5'6", 152lbs, useful, creative, kind, reliable, straight, clean and safe, supportive, diverse interests. Seeking S/DWBiF for friendship on her terms. Crave relaxing getaway to the Cape with you. Box 1022

SEEKING A RELATIONSHIP
SWM, 31, 6'1", slim, professional, brown hair, blue eyes, good-looking, graduate student, easy going, in search of SWF, 27-33, decreed for possible relationship. Box 1020 16

DIVORCED WHITE MALE
40's, 5'8", 170lbs, answers when called, loves to be petted and cuddled, doesn't learn new tricks easily, watchful and paper trained. Box 1019 16

ADVENTUROUS SWM 32 16
5'10", 175lbs, blond/green likes rafting, canoeing, movies and cuddling, seeks S/DW, 25-40, fit and active, honest, monogamous to share long walks. Let's see where the trail leads. Box 1029

SINGLE WHITE MALE
39, looking for long term monogamous, with SWF, 30-40, likes include sailing, hiking and outdoor activities. Box 1014 14

MARXIST MOVIE MAVEN
Bald, bohemian, impecunious, insomniac, urbanite, sedentary, sensual, Marxist, DWM, cinemaphile and be-bop aficionado. ISO compatible companion, age, race, looks unimportant, but bad habits a plus. Box 1013 14

EXPERIENCE SERENDIPITY
Eclectic, eccentric SWM, 28, creative, 140lbs, 69", seeks intelligent, off beat, cute, fit, SWF, must like hats. Box 1015 14

DANCE WILD AND GENTLE
Single bearded man seeks earth spirit woman friend to dance sacred circles, explore and celebrate love and nature, share and harvest dreams of community. Box 1003 14

SEEKING BLACK FEMALE 14
Fit, slim, sensual, passionate SWPM, young 30's, N/S, seeks BF, 23-29, with similar qualities, for springtime frolic and eventually something serious. Box 1005

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

SMART AND STABLE
Academic, GWF, 28, cute, monogamous, few hang-ups, seeks similar, 28-35, for stimulating exchanges. No new age, PC, 12 steps please. Box 1002 14

BISEXUALS LONG HAired ARTIST
Bisexual, bookish, leftish, Amherst man, seeks slender male or female,

for friendship. Box 1027 18

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